

NEW SERIES.]

JUNE, 1873.

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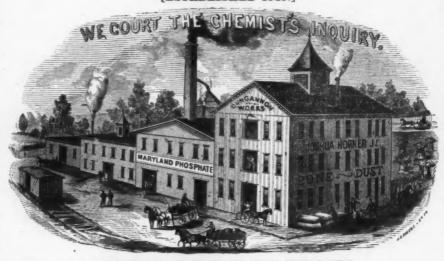
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[ESTABLISHED 1848.]



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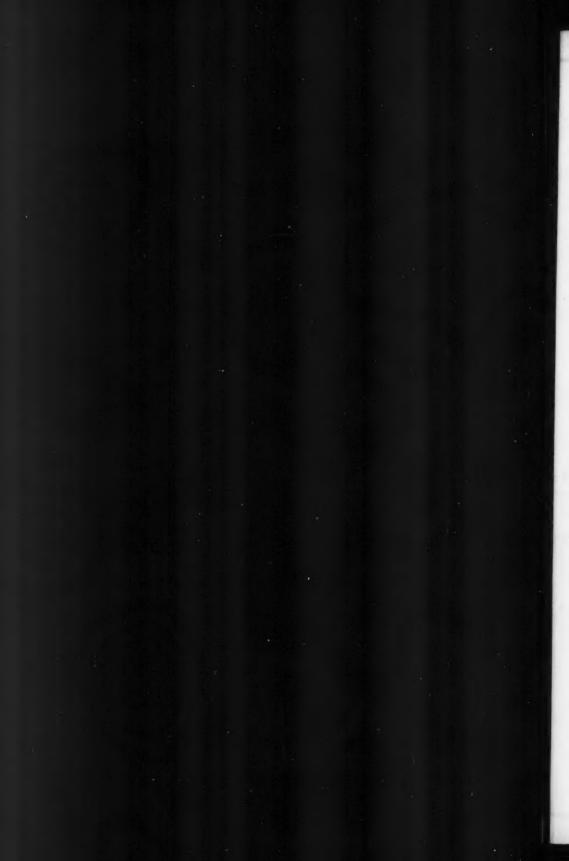
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AMERICAN FARMER

AND

RURAL REGISTER.

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Vol. II.-No. 6.]

JUNE, 1873.

NEW SERIES.

Plantation Economy.

Elsewhere we have noticed the reception of a copy of the Proceedings of the Annual Convention of the South Carolina Agricultural and Mechanical Society, for 1872-embodied in which we find an Essay by D. Wyatt Aiken, Esq., the Secretary and Treasurer of the Society, for which a premium had been awarded. on the subject of Plantation Economy, and which has been ordered to be published for distribution. Although the requirement was for "a practical paper as adapted to South Carolina," yet the general instructions given therein we find are equally suited to most of the Southern States in which our Farmer circulates, and we are consequently induced to transfer the main portions of the Essay to our pages, as containing as much valuable advice to the farmers and planters of the South, as we have lately seen embodied in an

Col. Aiken, in the outset, questions whether any well devised scheme of plantation economy has ever been generally practiced in the state by the planters; "that they have subsisted and accumulated, is little else than a proof of the material advantages of their climate and country;" that "the genial climate and a generous soil compensate for half the labor required in colder climates," and that "no system can be approved that does not produce a surplus for market, as well as subsist the producers." That this can be done in S. Carolina, Col. A. thinks is equally as evident as that it is not done; and he firmly

believes that an average Cotton crop can be produced and exported without the necessity of importing any article which is the production of the temperate zone, and to point out the method by which this end can be effected, is the object of his essay.

In the first place he suggests that all the leaks on the plantation, however small, should be stopped-for a penny saved is two pence made-and instances the fact, that although bacon may be bought at ten cents a pound. vet the time required for the teams and hired drivers to haul it to the farm, is to be taken into the account; added to which the money paid for it is probably costing interest at the rate of one and a half per cent, per monthconsequently considerable labor and trouble had better be incurred to raise meat at home, rather than buy, because so cheap. A single well bred hog, twelve months old, butchered annually for each member of his family, will supply the planter with an abundance of meat, and this can be done simply by economizing the waste about the farm lots-the fallen fruits, the stubble fields, the kitchen slops, and the gleanings of the stables, will suffice to produce a sufficient quantity of meat for his

Another item in his economy is urged upon the planter, that bread should never be bought with the cotton crop; that if wheat cannot be grown, then it should be bought with the corn raised; or by the cultivation of some other grain crop which requires less labor than the corn. "If (says the writer) our farmers could be induced to determine to produce their own meat and bread, two great points would be gained towards adopting that system of plantation economy which would restore our state to her wonted prosperity. But so long as our smoke-houses are in Baltimore, and our grain crops in the Northwest, we will continue to be 'hewers of wood and drawers of water' for other less favored, but more prudent people."

It is estimated that the cultivable land of South Carolina is capable of sustaining four times its present population—that few acres in it are so sterile that they will not cover their own nakedness with vegetable matter during the summer—and this growth can be and should be turned to account by introducing sheep upon the spot where it grows, to consume it. The manner of accomplishing this is thus presented by Col. Aiken:

"One million Merino sheep might be imported into South Carolina on the first of next May, and subsisted till the first of the following November, without further cost than penning them every night, as security against dogs. Almost every native grass or weed that grows in the state is fattening food for sheep, and being closely nipped by these ramblers, is carried nightly to the hurdling pens, and before morning there distributed, with wonderful accuracy, as a concentrated fer-tilizer over the land. Every hundred sheep thus managed during a year will so thoroughly enrich the most barren two-acre lot, that it will grow the following season barley or turnips enough to carry the same hundred sheep through the succeeding winter; and if this same lot be then seeded in grass it will yield two tons of hay to the acre, or if planted in cotton, will produce more than a bale to the acre, with average seasons and proper culture.

"Sheep will not only gather from our waste lands all kinds of noxious weeds and grasses, and convert them into stimulating manures, thus restoring the most barren spots to fertility almost without cost, but every ewe will with the greatest certainty produce a lamb, and the wool-clips from any flock of grade Merinos will more than compensate for the trouble and expense annually incurred. an article of diet, no flesh is more delicious than mutton, and as an evidence that the prejudice existing against the peculiar taste of mutton is rapidly yielding to popular favor, it will command at all times a higher price than beef or pork. That more sheep are not grown in South Carolina is amazing, and can only be accounted for from the infatuation of our farmers upon the cotton crop. Any system of plantation economy adopted in this state and ignoring the sheep flock is incomplete and expensive.

"Growing wool and bacon at home, and substituting the small grain crop for corn, except where corn can be most profitably grown,

is by no means an abandonment of the culture of cotton. This system will curtail the area, but tends to increase the yield, and thereby encourages the farmer to aim at making his cotton crop what it should be, a net income. Over four thousand pounds of seed cotton have been grown upon a single acre in South Carolina, and frequently ten bales, of four hundred pounds of lint cotton each, have been picked and ginned from ten acres. Such crops, however, never have and never will be gathered by the farmer who anticipates his harvest in proportion to the area planted. An average cultivated crop in South Carolina is about twenty-five acres to the mule; ten acres in corn and fifteen in cotton; and is a most wasteful economy, which scarcely produces corn enough to feed the laborers and plough animals, and not a sufficiency of cotton to guarantee an appreciable net income to the farming community.

"If more grasses and small grain were sown, and less corn cultivated, the number of plough animals, which are expensive feeders, might be greatly reduced. For instance, the mule that can cultivate twenty-five acres of corn and cotton, can cultivate the same proportion of cotton, and twice as many acres of small grain as of corn. Or if three mules be required to cultivate forty-five acres of cotton and thirty acres of corn, by a substitution of small grain for corn, two mules can cultivate the forty-five acres of cotton, and the thirty acres of small grain, thus on a three mule farm of the present system, by this substitution saving the expense of keeping annually

one mule.

"Almost anywhere in South Carolina barley will produce, upon sheep hurdled lots, from twenty-five to fifty bushels per acre; rye will produce on any upland as many bushels as corn; wheat should be grown only to prevent buying flour, and red oats will produce two bushels with more certainty and less expense than corn will one; and if one bushel of corn will feed a working mule four days, two bushels of red oats will feed him five days, keep him in better health, make him more sprightly, and tend to prolong his life, whereas corn, as a constant food, has an opposite tendency. These red oats have never yet taken the rust in South Carolina, and have never failed to remunerate the farmer, if sown early enough in the fall. If sown in August they will supply winter pasturage for sheep without detriment to the crop, and greatly to the benefit of the flock. To economize labor they should be sown on cotton land previously to ploughing the cotton the last time. The cotton crop requires the work, and the oats are thus sown with no other cost than that of sowing. The cotton stalks can be knocked down in March, and the oat crop harvested in May.

"Every policy that aims at reducing labor on the farm should be adopted, for no question has so worried and troubled the Southern planter during the past few years as that of labor When labor was capital, never were the two antagonistic elements known to harmonize more beautifully; but at present they are the antipodes of each other in the South; and, contrary to all anticipations of practical economy, where they conflict, labor usually becomes ascendant. No amount of capital can control that peculiar system of labor now existing at the South. Fair wages will command a sort of make-shift performance. hanced pay, or wages increased even ten-fold, will not perceptibly improve the quality of the work. Fifty cents an acre may "hoe" an acre of cotton, seventy-five cents will not perform the work any better. Ten dollars per month will command so much labor; twenty dollars per month will not improve the quality, nor increase the quantity of the same work. Such a general condition will continue during this generation. Each individual farmer may effect a different and better result upon his own farm, but to make the change general, some system must be adopted that will produce the same result with lesss dependence upon this inefficient labor. If a substitution of the small grain crop for the corn crop upon most of our plantations, dispenses with onethird the plough animals on the plantation, the same system will discharge the same proportion of labor. Six laborers are required to cultivate seventy-five acres of land, if thirty be in corn and forty-five cotton. Four laborers will cultivate the same area, if thirty be in small grain and forty-five in cotton, thus saving to the employer the hire and rations of one-third the laborers, as well as one-third the plough stock.

"This system, too, enables the farmer to rest his lands, or (by succeeding his small grain with a green crop to turn under in the fall, such as the pea crop sown broadcast, at the rate of two bushels to the acre,) so rotate his summer crop as to improve his lands perceptibly in a few years. Large yields of cotton may put money in the pocket, but it annually impoverishes the farmer. Strange paradox! but, nevertheless, true. Any crop that frequently turns the surface of our soil to the bleaching agency of the sun during our hot summer months, must by evaporation extract from the soil more fertility than is restored to it by a sprinkling of a few pounds of caustic fertilizers. And our washing rains always fall during the summer, washing away the little soluble matter, or plant-food the soil contains. Hence the devotee to cotton may for a few years receive handsome returns for his labors, but he seldom leaves to his offspring an inheritance of an improved plantation.

Col. Aiken deems it unprofitable to attempt to raise cattle in the greater portion of South Carolina as a marketable commodity, but insists that a sufficient amount for the family, and a supply for milk and butter, should suffice. In considerable portions of the state, the heavy tramp of the cattle is injurious to the light land; in addition to which they are poor scavengers, and require too much feed.

ing from Nov. to May to be profitable. In reply to this latter objection, that of winter feeding, he says:—

"Sheep will winter themselves upon our cotton fields and the early sown grain, but cattle must be housed and fed. Fortunately, however, any acre of upland, thoroughly prepared by deep ploughing and manuring and pulverizing, will, if left to its indigenous growth, produce grass enough to make sufficient hay to sustain a cow or ox during the following winter. And the turnip crop, properly sown and cultivated, will, feed luxuriously two cows to every acre, or twenty-five sheep to the same area. They should be sown in the drill, on highly manured and well prepared land, in July or August, cultivated once with both hoe and plough, and fed away as drawn from the drill. Any of the white varieties will keep sound until half the winter is gone, and the yellow Aberdeen or Ruta-Baga will, if cultivated properly, survive our winters with perfect soundness. One thousand bushels, either by weight or measurement, can easily be grown to the acre.'

The present average crop in the state he estimates at only 300 bushels—and two bushels raw turnips daily will keep a cow in good milking condition all the winter, with the smallest quantity of cornmeal or bran in addition. For the Pedee section and coast counties of S. Carolina, there are large areas of uncultivated lands that could in no other manner be more profitably utilized than by stocking them with herds of such cattle as are best suited to the climate and usage—and Col. A. considers that the Ayrshires and Brahmins, with their crosses, would be invaluable to the owners of such lands.

The experience of observant men in the South, as well as elsewhere, proves that success in stock raising is dependant upon the amount of care bestowed upon the animals kept—and the writer of this admirable essay, at its close, strongly denounces the neglect of the farmers and planters of his state, in this particular, and thinks that "the inevitable cow-pens, half leg deep in mud and manure, are of Southern origin, and seem to be peculiarly advocated in South Carolina."

In conclusion, the writer makes a strong appeal in a direction which we have so frequently pointed out, the importance of every landholder paying attention to the beautifying of his home—a few vines, and shrubs, fruit trees, and flowers, annually planted out in the vicinity of the homestead, add not only to the beauty of the spot, but present an evidence of taste and refinement, and are calculated to

make every child reared in the family believe that there is a peculiar attraction about it. "The fragrance of the rose, the shade of the majestic oak, the carpet of green that surrounds the venerable mansion, the ornamental out-buildings, and the general air of comfort and contentment, should be all indelibly impressed upon the plastic minds of our children. These features would be readily attractive to strangers, and would contribute towards enhancing the market value of our lands, now so ridiculously low, and induce our farmers to conclude this shall be their abiding place as surely as it has been the place of their nativity or adoption."

A "New Departure" in the Right Direction.

We were rejoiced to receive from Mr. Gilmer, of Albemarle Co., Va., the following communication, at the same time finding that our fears of his health having again become impaired, were groundless.

In a private note, Mr. G. informs us that he has been induced to write upon the subject embraced in this paper, at the solicitation of a valued friend, well known to our readersand in forwarding it to us, direction is given. if it appears to have too much of reference to his own personal affairs, to throw it aside, adding, "I never write just to be writing, but for the sole purpose of helping our own badly depressed people." We prefer to present his communication as he has written it, hoping that his example, and its happy results, will stimulate others to make a strenuous effort to extricate themselves from the dilemma in which so many are now placed. It requires an effort, and a strong one too, as we all know-for there are few of us but have, in our time, been placed in similar circumstances, and know how hard it is to bring ourselves to entertain the idea of a necessity for retrenchment-and, more especially is this the case, when we have to broach this necessity to those near and dear to us, who have enjoyed to the fullest extent, the luxuries as well as the comforts of life. It is by the women of the whole country-not of the South only, but of every section—that this refrain should be taken up. Many a man, from his tenderness of feeling towards his loved ones, has not the courage to propose such a reform at home, though he may have had the boldness to stand firm at his post and in the discharge

of his duty, in a hundred conflicts beyond the confines of his own domicil. Let the wives and daughters of the land stimulate their husbands and fathers to follow the noble example set by our valued correspondent and his honored household, and they, too, will soon find the like beneficial results in their own homes, which have attended the stern and inflexible determination of Mr. G. and his family. This course cannot be carried out to its fullest extent in all cases-for all are not circumstanced alike-but a beginning should be made wherever practicable; every unnecessary want should be dispensed with. to relieve the head of the family of that terrible evil to a truly sensitive mind, which is so truly and pathetically described by our correspondent, when he expresses the feelings he experienced when he heard the "mournful baying of his faithful watch dog, or the stern halloo often made" by the coming visitor, which, to his mind, created the fear that "there comes some one after his just dues, and I have not the wherewithal to pay." Extravagance in almost every department of life is now the ruling passion and vice in the land -the millions of revenue raised by the tariff of the General Government from the silks and satins and gewgaws of every description, to say nothing of the wines and liquors, and other superfluities of a like character consumed by our people, proclaims the extent of that vast expenditure yearly made, for which a day of reckoning will surely come.

How often do we find this terrible evil of extravagance producing its fruit in families around and about us, in the city as well as in the country. When the head is taken away, how frequently is it found to be the case, in the endeavor to keep up appearances, that the family had lived up to their income derived from his labors, and is left entirely penniless: not unfrequently the estate is found to be bankrupt, and those who had been nurtured in indolence and luxury are thrown upon the cold charities of the world. Friends for a while may be found to sympathize, but how poor a dependance is this most generally found to be, many who may read this have no doubt realized in their day.

We heartily concur with Mr. Gilmer that the press and the pulpit, the two great levers by which the living world is moved, should make an earnest appeal to those within their influence, to enter at once upon a system of reform, to check this terrible evil which is ever gnawing at the very vitals of the nation, and which must, sooner or later, involve us in the vortex with which we are threatened.

"Pay as You Go."

To the Editors of the American Farmer:

I have been sadly, though thoroughly convinced, that credit, since the war, has been a great evil to me, and being thus convinced, I resolved at once to stop it, and do not think one cent has been charged to me or mine this year, and so far have been so delighted with its operation, that I do not now think I shall ever again depart from so good a rule, from which I have derived so much peace, happiness and prosperity; though this is only onehalf of the good rule adopted, for I do not sell on credit. By closely adhering to this rule, I have been less annoyed, bought less, and paid more this year than in any or all of the years since the war: and I do believe, if this good rule could be adopted and well carried out, by all men everywhere, the condition of all would very soon greatly improve, (and would be found not to be so great a monster as too often supposed,) and I think would go very far to answer Mr. Newton's query in the American Farmer, (What Shall we Do?) I well know I have sold more, bought less and paid more, and enjoyed a greater degree of happiness since I have adopted this rule, than in four times as much time since the war, and would most earnestly advise all who possibly can do so, to adopt and firmly cling to the same good rule, fondly hoping and firmly believing they, too, like myself, will find their peace, happiness and prosperity very greatly improved. I do not wish to convey the worse than idle idea that the mere adopting this rule will of itself bring about this glorious result, for just as foolishly would a wicked man vainly hope that he and his household could get to heaven without humble, earnest, heart-felt prayer, as a lazy drone of a man to hope for success by merely resolving to adopt the system recommended. But this rule, thoughtfully adopted and closely adhered to, by any sensible man, would very quickly bring into full exercise his whole soul, body and mind. He would be compelled to use judiciously his every thinking power to plan well, and to execute with energy to keep things going at first, and no doubt would often find himself and his in quite painful straits. But let him hold on in full faith, and very soon he and his would begin to breathe freer, and to find things become much easier, and by degrees the cheering silver lining of peace, happiness and prosperity would rise high and higher, bright and brighter, beckoning him and his onwards to the full enjoyment of real happiness far beyond his present gloomy and almost despondent hopes.

One thing is most certain, we can't go on much longer as we have been going, and this nine-tenths of our people most painfully feel

and sensibly know. Then what shall we do? Awaken, at once arouse, and manfully resolve that we will retrench and restrain our expenses, and quadruple our efforts of mind. soul and body; think well and manfully resolve, and the work thus well begun is more than half done. I painfully well know it is exceedingly hard for a sensible, feeling man to see his fond wife and dependent children's wants ungratified ; yet hard and unpleasant as this truly is, it will be much harder to see them unhoused; and the way many are now going, surely must lead to this painful and distressing result, unless they intend to screen themselves under the late unfortunate bankrupt act of Congress, which will secure to many a home—a mere home. But what must be too often its sad results? "Tis true it will annul many an obligation for debts justly due -but will this not be exceedingly distressing to every sensitive person, and very demoralizing to a vast many? Now, if this can be avoided, should we not strive very hard to accomplish it? In very many cases it can be avoided. Only resolve, "I will pay as I buy, and will buy nothing I can do without, and will pay over to those whom I owe every cent I can thus save;" and I think all who will honestly strive to fully accomplish this, will be astonished at how few and small are his real wants, and the immense amounts he can save to pay over to those he justly owes. This plan, fully matured, firmly resolved on, and vigorously carried out, will bring into profitable use brighter thoughts and ampler means, which have strangely been allowed too long to remain dormant; and when he has fully accomplished this so desirable an object, how delightfully gratifying it will be, only those fortunate ones who have, or are suc-ceeding, can fully realize. What a glorious example too this would be to those dear ones we so fondly love, and whom we soon must leave to represent us when we are gone; and how much better this good example will prepare them to serve their God, their country and themselves, a hell to avoid and a heaven to secure.

I well know, had I not seen the error and evils arising from the credit system, and the too little attention paid to the many little things incident to the farming operations, &c. I must ere long have gone under myself. I saw and keenly felt the errors, and at once halted and calmly reviewed the past; seriously reflected and well weighed the future. I resolved to do less, and do that little well, and am proud to say I have been more successful than I expected. At first it was hard, very painfully hard on all of us; but now it is quite easy and vastly more pleasant.

My first step was to carefully examine and see what I could spare, and was gratified to find how much more I could dispense with than I ever dreamed of. The next step was to find out in what and how much I could curtail our wants, and in this too I was most agreeably surprised. So to work we began with a hearty good will, and we have been cheered

day after day with its good results. I have sold more, paid much more, and bought less, and all are happier and more sensibly hopeful than we have ever been since the close of our late unfortunate war; for it then seemed to me I owed almost everybody, but now, thank God, I owe comparatively but few; then I was ever hard pressed, and rarely ever had any money by me, but now I am quite seldom if ever pressed, and never without some money for all birelings and necessary expenses. Then I oft found it very worrying to meet the payments for my family's stinted expenses, gotten on short credit; but now I always have the cash for a more liberal supply. Then we were often gloomy and sad, but now generally cheerful and happy-then I wished to sell my home; but now I mean to hold on to the dear old homestead, dearer to me and mine than ever, where the birds sing more sweetly, the grasses are of a more luxuriant green, and the lambs more in number. much larger, and more rapidly advancing to an early market. Then the mournful baying of my faithful watch dog, or the stern halloo, often made me fear that there comes some one after his just dues, and I have not the wherewithal to pay; but now, my faithful watch dog's jolly bark, or the far more respectful halloo, cheers me with the more pleasing reflection that there comes some one with money in his pocket to buy a horse, a beef, a mutton, wool, hay, meal, bacon, a plough coulter, harrow, or something of one and a thousand articles which have been accumulating on hand for years, now of no further use to me, but of much service to some one else, for which they will give their money, (in these tight times of great use to us all.) All such exchanges should be made at once, for if we cannot get what they cost us, we should remember they are rusting and rotting, and the interest on all we owe is silently though fearfully growing, not beautifully less and less, but bigger and awfully bigger. We should do all we can to stop these runious leaks by selling all of everything we can of no use to us; if we can't get our price, take their's, for almost any price is preferable to no price at all.

These are my opinions, derived from the severe chastisements I at first received under the adoption of this good rule, Poy as you go, which, if maturely adopted and thoroughly carried out, will, I think, be as fully expressive of a pleasant and successful future, as was Cæsar's Veni, Vidi, Vici, of his victorious past; and if the great bulk of our people will but fairly try it, I am well convinced they will very soon find it as I have done, the mightiest engine for working into successful play all and every little thing upon which so much depends our peace, happiness and pros-

perity.

Now, my dear sirs, will it be asking too much of you, occupying as you so deservedly do, the confidence and esteem of the bone and sinew of Virginia and the Carolinas, whenever a fit opportunity offers, just softly to whisper a kind word or two, by which, per-

haps, you may do much to help to put this (or some better) ball successfully in motion, by which your great success may and will be yet more greatly increased, and our farmers, me-chanics and laborers, (these three should be one,) become more successful, happy and prosperous. It does seem to me if our political papers could have more on such subjects it would do vastly more good than securing the success of either, or (if possible,) both of the hotly contesting parties now so rashly using every means to wildly excite our whole com-munity for the benefit of only a few, at the expense of the many. I have often wondered that our religious papers should so seldom and slightly allude to these kindred subjects. Can't you softly whisper in their ears? A word or two fitly spoken may do much good.

With most sincere wishes for your highest success as supplyers to our needy farmers, and in helping to bring about some plan by which our whole country can and will improve, I am, dear sirs, most sincerely your old friend,

GEO. C. GILMER.

S. Carolina State Agricultural Society.

We have received a copy of the proceedings of this society for 1872, with the list of articles exhibited and premiums awarded at its annual fair, and we cannot but express our gratification at the evidences presented in this volume of 60 or 70 pages, of the recuperative energies of its intelligent farmers and planters, who seem determined to prove to the world, that notwithstanding the terrible ordeal through which they have passed during the last decade, their spirits and energies are still unbroken. Notwithstanding S. Carolina is probably the only state in the Union that gives no aid to its State agricultural society to support its annual shows, yet from the number and variety of articles upon the grounds at the last exhibition, and the amount and liberality of the premiums bestowed, the result would have been worthy of many of the larger and best endowed associations.

The President, in his opening address, alludes to a matter which is worthy of consideration by other societies. The annual meetings are so entirely engrossed with the matters pertaining to the shows, that one of the duties which should devolve upon them in fulfilling their usefulness, is unfulfilled—and President Hagood, of this society, suggests, that this difficulty may be met by confining the time alloted for the show exclusively to that purpose, and that special meetings be held at other and the most convenient seasons of the year, for the discussion of such sub-

jects as may be of general interest to their class. This plan is adopted in some of the Eastern and Northern states, with the happiest results, and the reports of the discussions being published in the agricultural and daily press, a vast amount of very useful information is thus disseminated.

The President alludes to the trials through which the people of the state have passed; that since the war the difficulties of an untried labor and devastated fields they have had to grapple with, having "caused their agriculture for a while to be conducted in the spirit of a casual tenant; and the effort of the planter, in most cases, was merely to realize what he could of present profit in a precarious venture." But we are rejoiced to find that now a more hopeful spirit, and better prospects, are manifested, and Mr. Hagood attributes a goodly proportion of this result, to the operations of the State Society.

"Now (says Mr. H.) our labor has crystalized in its new relations to capital; its efficiency is known and may be taken at its true value in all agricultural estimates. Time and industry have largely re-accumulated our wasted capital, and a healthier feeling pervades the public mind and inspires its energies. The good, then, undoubtedly, in some aspects of the change our industrial relations have undergone, is perceived; and time is hopefully looked to to remove or mitigate the political evils that accompanied it. all, the results of the conflict are accepted, and there is a feeling, without which there can be no healthy advance in agriculturethat we have yet a home to adorn and a country to live for. For how much of this improved condition of things we are indebted to the influences of this society, it would be difficult to say, and perhaps be deemed arrogant for me to assert. But the assemblage of the Convention in April, 1869, which gave it existence, was the first expression of hope that found utterance after the war for the industrial interests of South Carolina, and of the whole of this happy progress the society has been a part. I confidently believe it will continue to exert no mean influence in whatever of development of the State's abounding resources the future may have in store, and that in laboring to advance that object, we are best discharging the duty of the hour.

Among the large number of premiums offered were several for the cheapest crops of cotton raised on farms of not less than ten and five hands, the report of which is given in this volume—both the premiums were taken by the President, Mr. Hagood, whose crop consisted of 105 acres of cotton, which yielded 790 lbs. seed cotton per acre, at a cost of production of 7 cts. per 1b., and which by factor's returns sold for 17‡ cents (factor's charges deducted)—leaving 10‡ cts. to corn, wear and tear of animals and implements, interest on capital, taxes and supervision of planter. There were 81‡ acres corn, which yielded 22 bushels per acre.

Mr. James C. Tittle had 25 acres of rented land, consisting of 6 of bottoms and 19 upland-9 acres were planted in cotton, from which he gathered 12,000 lbs. seed cotton; the remainder of land (16) in corn, from which he gathered 387 bushels corn by actual measurement—and the committee appointed to decide upon the matter, certify, "that Mr. Tittle, with one mule, ploughed it, and planted and hoed it by himself. No manure was used of any description, and the whole cost of production for hired labor was but \$7, and Mr. T. lived 14 miles from his farm (which inconvenience the committee thought should be taken into consideration,) doing all the work by himself in preparing and planting." Let men of small means who think of "going West," to improve their condition, ponder upon these

A premium (\$5) was offered for the cheapest pound of cotton grown on any farm in the state, which was taken by Miss Nannie C. Kennedy, of Columbia, who showed that she had raised the pound at an average cost of 3 34-100 cents per lb. on an eighth of an acre.

In Mr. Hagood's statement he says: "It is proper to add, that this cost of producing cotton with free labor is, in my own experience, exceptionally low."

The premium list embraces every article in the department of field crops; also of stock, implements, poultry, and the household departments-in the latter, the exhibition was, we think, unsurpassed by that of any society whose proceedings we have of late years witnessed or read of-showing that the ladies of Carolina are as actively engaged in the great work of recuperation as their husbands, sons and brothers. The largest exhibitors in this line were Mrs. J. Witherspoon, of Society Hill, who had 91 different articles on exhibition, and received the premium for the largest number-Mrs. H. W. Lawson, of Abbeville, (78 articles) was the second largest exhibitor, and Mrs. J. Witherspoon, of Richland, the third (22 articles.) Col. Aiken, in addition to the premium for the best essay carried off the largest number of premiums, being an exhibitor in almost every department of farm economy.

Ensanchusetts Agricultural College.

We have received the 10th Annual Report of this College, for 1872, a volume of 134 pages, embracing a full account of everything connected with the institution, including reports on Departments of Agriculture, Chemistry, Veterinary Science, Physics and Civil Engineering, on Chemical Fertilizers, on Military, Mental, Moral and Social Science, and a report of the Farm Superintendant on the operations of the farm and its present condition. We could fill more than half our pages with extracts from this Report, which would be useful to the general reader who takes an interest in the progress of Agriculture-and may hereafter very liberally copy from the Report of Prof. Goessman, on Commercial Fertilizers; the report of the Farm Superintendant, Mr. Dillon, is also peculiarly interesting. Mr. L. Saltonstall, chairman of a committee appointed by the legislature to visit the College, in his report, speaks of it as fulfilling all that was intended by the Federal Government and the Commonwealth in its endowment, and "cheerfully and conscientiously bears witness to the truth of the affirmative" of this question. He declares that-

"The education which is here received is no more extended than ought to be borne away from such a College, and ought to fit a young man to carry on profitably and pleasurably to himself, as well as with advantage to his neighbors, a farm for any purpose; to become an engineer, mechanic, superintendant, agricultural editor, and to pursue the various paths where a man may become useful to the agricultural community. He learns more or less of that manliness which is inspired by daily exercise as a soldier, as well as to defend his country in time of need; an admirable feature of the Institution and wisely required by the Government.

"The statistics of the occupations chosen by the graduates show that a large number have adopted agricultural pursuits as their permanent occupation. It cannot, of course, be expected that the whole or any certain proportion of the young men should adhere to a purpose which may have been seriously entertained by them on entering this College, of becoming farmers. As character is developed by education, the tastes and feelings are greatly changed, and the paths pursued by them must necessarily diverge. If, however, each class turns out a reasonable number of intelligent, scientific agriculturists, then may the College well be considered as fulfilling the intention of its foundation."

The College possesses thoroughbred animals of seven different breeds of cattle, viz:
Of Short Horns, 3 bulls, 12 females; Ayr-

shires, 3 bulls and 8 females; Jerseys, 2 bulls, 5 females; Devons, 3 bulls and 2 females; Brittanies, 2 bulls and 1 female; Swiss, 1 bull; and of Dutch or Holstein, 1 bull. Of swine, 12 Chester whites, 3 Berkshires and 2 Yorkshires; and of poultry, 6 varieties of games, 70; partridge and white cochins, 15; Houdans, 14; gold-spangled Polands, 5; Seabright bantams, bronze turkeys, Rouen ducks, and numerous pigeons of the various breeds.

Agricultural Calendar.

Work for the Month-June.

In this section, up to the date of this writing, (May 12th.) there have been heavy and frequent rains, and work is, as a result, very much behind-hand; in some localities ploughing is not done, in many corn is not planted, and in almost all, the seasonable labor of the farm is generally backward. We hear some accounts of seeds rotting in the ground, and others of the cut worms prevailing badly, whilst of course the many showers have produced innumerable weeds, which ought to be destroyed as soon as apparent. With so much on hand, farmers will have little time for reading, and we proceed without further preface to the suggestions of the season.

Corn.-Doubtless owing to the prevalence of rains, and the pressure of accumulated work, some of which, with ordinary seasons. would have been done in the past fall and winter, this issue of the Farmer will find some of our readers who have not gotten in this crop. To such we recommend the utmost diligence, as no time is to be lost; for while there is no reason to despair, all the chances of success are in favor of the carliest start the crop can make. On land naturally rich, or on such as can be well manured, no fears may be felt for the fair success of a crop. provided the weeds are kept down and the ground well stirred, observing in this latter respect our oft repeated warning against lacerating and breaking up the feeding roots by the plough. Everything will depend upon thorough and clean cultivation, but good results will attend the application of a well mixed compost or a good commercial manure to the hills. We find in last month's Journal of Chemistry, in Dr. Nichols' "Farm Pencilings," a recommendation of a mixture for corn and potatoes often suggested in these pages, and which doubtless is one of the most effective and certain that can be used. It is composed of one barrel bone dust and two barrels wood The mode of mixing recommended ashes. by the Dr. is to mix together on a floor with a hoe, adding about four buckets full of water

from time to time during the mixing. A half bushel of plaster is recommended to be also added as useful in preventing the escape of free ammonia formed by standing. It should stand a day or two before using, and a hand full used in the hill for corn or potatoes, but it should not come in direct contact with the seed. A moderate dose to each hill, of chicken manure and plaster, or ashes and plaster will also have a good effect.

Potatoes should be gotten in as soon as possible; as a rule, we think those planted later not often succeeding so well. The requisites of success are good ground and clean culture. Nothing will compensate for the want of the latter; plentiful manuring will make amends for natural deficiency in the former. Just as soon as the vines begin to show themselves, or even before they do, the cultivator ought to be used or the Thomas' Harrow. The latter implement is a moneysaver in cultivating a crop of potatoes. The oftener the crop is worked the better it will be. No crop suffers more than this from weeds, and it pays to pull them by hand.

Mangolds and Sugar Beets. These may still be sown, though not with a probability of so large a yield as if gotten in three or four weeks earlier. To the urgency with which we have recommended their culture we can here add nothing more. We refer to former numbers for details of their management, merely stating that about four pouncs of seed is sufficient for an are, and that it should be sown in drills 2; to 3 feet apart, and allowed to stand 10 or 12 inches apart in the rows. To hasten their germination, we soak the seed in warm water and dry by rolling in plaster.

Ruta Bagas. This root is very productive, easily kept, nutritious probably above any of the roots, except the potato, and useful as well for the table as for the food of stock. It keeps perfectly till late in the spring, and is a most valuable addition to the supplies of any farmer for feeding purposes. So many of our most successful farmers have borne testimony through the pages of the Farmer to the usefulness of this crop and its adaptability to our soils and climate, that nothing we can append to their encomiums will carry additional weight.

Here they are sown from the 20th June to the middle of July. They delight in rich, deep sandy soils, which for the best results must be thoroughly prepared. New soils or old pasture lands seem to suit them best, and a good application of ashes and plaster, or superphosphate of lime, will add to the certainty and amount of the crop. The latter dressing or bone dust, finely ground, seem peculiarly suitable applications.

Ruta Bagas (or Swedes, as they are more commonly known in England) should be sown.

in drills about 2½ feet wide, and the plants thinned out to stand 10 or 12 inches apart. Vacancies, if occurring, may be filled in by transplanting. The quantity of seed required to an acre is about 1 pound.

The preparation of the ground must be complete and deep. If it can be twice ploughed and subsoiled, so much the better: the tilth to be of the utmost fineness attainable by harrowing, cross harrowing and rolling. Of manures, 200 pounds of superphosphate or bone dust to the acre, will be a moderate dressing. This is best sown in the drills. The seed ought to be sown as soon as possible after the last ploughing, in order that it may germinate quickly. This is the only escape from the ravages of the fly. If the plants grow vigorously, and get into the rough leaf, they are then safe from the attacks of this pest. Dusting the plant early in the morning while wet with dew, or after a shower with ashes, unslaked lime or soot, is beneficial.

The seed is sown most conveniently with one of the numerous seed drills, which opens the furrow, drops and covers the seed. Where one of these is not owned, the seed may be mixed with sand and sown from a bottle, or dropped with the thumb and finger in small holes made with the corner of a hoe, at proper

distances along the drills.

As soon as the plants are large enough, begin to run the cultivator through the rows, and work between the plants with the hoe. This cultivation must be repeated several

Carrots and Parsnips may still be sown. No roots are better than the former for all kinds of stock; they are useful for cows, and are also much relished by horses. Parsnips are not only a nutritious and healthful vegetable for the table, but are highly commended for feeding both cattle and swine, and as they require no trouble whatever in keeping, deserve some little pains to grow. See former numbers for cultivation.

Buckwheat .- At any time through this month, and up to the middle of the next, this crop may be put in. On a good soil, with a fair amount of manure, a heavy crop may be expected, and even on a poorer one, with moderate supplies of fertilizing materials, a remunerative crop may be generally looked

Ten loads of good stable manure, or a well worked up compost; or 10 bushels of ashes and

200 pounds of bone dust; or 300 pounds of a good superphosphate will, in most cases, produce a paying crop.

From two to three pecks of seed, sown broadcast, will suffice for an acre. Buckwheat, from its tendency to shatter, is cut when about half of the seed are fully ripe, which is shown by their turning black. It ought to be threshed out as soon as the straw is dry.

Millet and Hungarian Grass.

—Wherever the prospect is for a short hay crop, prepare and sow a few acres, or a single one, in one of these valuable forage crops. They will be fit for use just at a time when most needed—and what is not consumed green is easily cured. They make excellent food cut green for soiling, much liked by cows. They should both be cut when in blossom, as if the seed are allowed to mature, the hay is then of little value. See former number for cultivation.

Lucerne may still be sown up to the middle of the month.

Sowed Corn.—Do not fail to sow this crop in succession either for soiling purposes as the pastures get short, or for curing for winter. By all means sow, as recommended last month, in drills, that the cultivator may pass through the rows, and that the sun and air may have free access to ripen and elaborate the juices of the plant.

Tobacco.—Of course the sooner the plants are set out the better; after which upon the constant mellowing of the soil and the destruction of weeds and grass depends the success of the crop.

Clover.—Cut for hay as early as possible after it comes in bloom. It is then, when properly cured, green, fragrant and nutritious. It may be allowed to lie in the swarth four or five hours, then put up into small cocks, which next morning, when the dew is off, may be turned over and lightly spread out, then made into larger cocks and, no rain having fallen on it, secured the next day. Clover allowed to get black and dry, loses its leaves and does not possess half the value of well cured hay.

Meadows.—As soon as the crop is off is a good time to put on some of the mixtures heretofore recommended as renovators. A good compost, bone-dust, ashes and plaster, applied in such proportions as may be attainable, will invariably repay the cost of their use.

Harvest.—Do not delay your preparations for this important season. Better always provide too great force than too little; almost inevitably some contingency will curtail your working gangs and leave you not over supplied. Provide a timely supply of good implements and have them in the best of order. This is true economy, and your own individual, personal attention will best secure the end aimed at here.

We always place a good deal of emphasis upon the preparation of harcest stores. Ample, generous fare, with due time to partake of and enjoy it, will do a great deal to make

hands endure with good nature and willingness the toilsome labors the season imposes. The drain of continuous work under the ardent sun requires ample provision to be made for physical sustenance, upon which depends the earnest and ambitious desire to do all in their power which is generally seen among laborers in the harvest field. Ample lunches and refreshing drinks, given at well timed hours, will be found to be conducive to the health and good spirits of your men, and will be more than paid for by the extra amount of work their use will produce. A half gallon of molasses, and $\frac{1}{2}$ of a pound of pulverized ginger, to five gallons of water, makes a pleasant and refreshing beverage for harvesters, and possesses none of the dangers of cold water used alone in hot weather.

As to the time of cutting grain, a word or two will suffice. Do not delay until your grain is dead ripe. As soon as the straw below the head becomes yellow and dry for an inch or two, there is no more nutriment received through the roots, and the grain should then be cut. The grain is then better filled, not so thick skinned, and is more nutritious and makes better and more flour. Besides this there is much less loss by shattering, and the grain weighs heavier and the straw is more valuable. Experiments conducted by able and eminent farmers all go to show conclusively that in wheat cut from 10 to 12 days before fully ripe, the grain weighs more, contains less woody fibre and more starch and gluten, and yields the most flour and the least bran.

*For some very useful hints on the subject of harvesting, we refer to a communication on another page.

Co-operation Among Farmers.

In a late number of the report from the Agricultural Bureau, the following truisms are presented:—

The word "combination" seems to have acquired a wicked significance, in view of some farmers. Let them use instead "co-operation" if they prefer it; but they must remember that there is no human being entirely independent of all others. Without association there would be neither churches nor schools. government nor social institutions. In other industries a large portion of the work done and profits made are through associated effort. There may be association for duty as well as for deviltry. There is no reason why comparative isolation should lead to positive hermitage. A great enlargement of American dairying has come from association; the monthly gatherings for sales of farm animals in Madison county, Ohio, have saved immense sums from the clutches of middle men; the inauguration of market fairs should be general; association for importing or buying animals of the best blood should be more numerous; there should be a farmer's library in every township in the land.

The Vinepard.

Vine Culture-Wine Making.

To the Editors of the American Farmer :

So many instructive books and essays have been published in this country concerning the cultivation of the grape and the manufacture of wine, that anything more upon the subject may seem superfluous. I have not the presumption to suppose that I can teach many of your readers anything about this, or any other branch of agriculture; and in my letters to your journal I shall aim merely to express my own views and modes of operation, without claiming that they are better or as good as others. Having been compelled in these dark days to study and learn how to obtain the best results from our husbandry with the least labor and expense, I shall endeavor to show the cheapest mode of cultivating the vine. And as the same means and facilities for conducting the business are not to be found in all places, I shall not indulge in any arithmetical calculations, but let every one count the cost for himself.

The great outlay of money required to establish vineyards in the modes recommended by our American authors, has doubtless deterred many farmers from planting the grape. But few of them estimate the cost at less than \$300 per acre; and Mr. Husmann, one of the most recent and popular writers on the subject, reckons it from \$400 up to \$800 per acre, depending on the grape selected—some varieties being much more expensive than others. Fortunately the most productive and profitable sorts, such as the Ives, Concord and Clinton, are now the cheapest, costing from \$25 to \$50 per thousand, according to age and

quality of the roots.

Many attempts at vine culture were made in the United States early in this century. Among the first to engage in it extensively were the Swiss settlers at Vevay, Ind.; and their failure was due to the fact that they planted a very poor variety, viz: the Cape. Soon after the enterprise was abandoned by them (about 1825) the Catauba grape was brought into notice by Major Adlum; and with it the Germans of the Ohio Valley met with better success. For many years it was so great a favorite as to be almost the only variety planted. Major Adlum justly claimed that by the introduction of the Catawba, he had conferred a greater boon upon the nation than if he had paid off the national debt:—which last, by the way, was a mere bagatelle in his day. Mr. Longworth valued this grape very highly, but was always seeking for a better one. He frequently advised the writer of this to sow seed, confident that superior varieties would soon be produced. He perceived all the difficulties that would beset the great industry he had so long and carefully fostered on the banks of the Ohio, if the oft-blighted Catawba was not supplanted by a more hardy

vine. If this result had not been attained, our progress in the business of producing wine would have been comparatively slow. It would have been confined chiefly to California and those Southern States in which the Scuppernong will thrive. The introduction of the vigorous and productive Concord and Ives gave a fresh impetus to grape culture; and although both of them are inferior to the Catawba, the fact that in nearly all soils and situations and seasons, they yield bountiful crops of sound fruit, has made them popular with planters. We yet want a grape as healthy and productive as the Concord, and equal in flavor to and possessing the vinous qualities of the Delaware or Herbemont. In the many present efforts to obtain new varieties, I hope that want will soon be supplied.

Most of our writers lay great stress upon the proper selection of the soil and situation for grapes, and it is an important matter for consideration before planting any of the class of fastidious vines. But from the hardy sorts I have named, good crops may be expected on nearly all soils that are dry. In Europe, especially in the northern portion of the vine region, the steep hill sides are selected for vineyards, on account of their greater warmth and dryness, and probably because such locations are least valuable for food crops. In Maryland, the plains and the northern slopes of the hills are warm enough to mature this fruit. In making an extensive plantation of vines, I should prefer to have some on all exposures, not only to obtain partial exemption from late spring frosts, but to vary the period of ripening, and so prolong and lighten the labors of the vintage. The strongest vines should of course occupy the coldest aspects.

In choosing a site for a vineyard, I would avoid very steep hills on account of the labor of cultivation; and also very stiff clays, on account of the cost of draining. I should prefer a sandy loam, and I am inclined to think a ferruginous soil the best for nearly all fruits, and particularly for the grape. I expressed this opinion in a letter on the same subject, which you published as far back as 1858, and the observation of recent years has strengthened my belief. The calcareous clays around Cincinnati were once supposed to be the most suitable for the grape, but of late years the sandy shores and islands of Lake Erie have produced superior crops. In the best vineyards of Europe the soil is unmistakably reddened with a large admixture of iron. In the earth of the Chateau Lafitte vineyard, and in all the best soils of Medoc from which choice wines are produced, there is nine per cent. of iron. It is said to deepen the color of the wine; nor do the Medoc wines fade as they grow older, as is usual with many.
The soil of the famous Cote d'or in Burgundy is rather varied, but in all portions there is a large per centage of iron and lime—quite as much of the former as of the last. In the Rhinegau also, and especially at Johannisberg, the red sandstone prevails, indicating a large proportion of iron. The soil should be good,

but not very rich, as a very luxuriant growth is not to be desired for wine of the first quality. When the vines come into bearing, and have regular loads of fruit to carry, then is the time to assist them, if necessary, with good barn-yard compost, or such fertilizers as bone dust, ashes and plaster. Enough of these to keep them in full vigor, and enable them to mature both fruit and wood perfectly, is all that is required. If the soil is naturally good, but little manure may be needed for years, other than that supplied by the leaves of the vines, which should be turned under. As soon as any decrease of vigor is perceived then a suitable tonic should be applied. I have often seen the health of vines impaired and the fruit deteriorated by excessive manuring. But these remarks apply only to those short pruned, as in vineyard treatment. Vines trained on arbors and walls, and on

which many bushels of fruit are allowed to

grow, require much fertilizing to mature such heavy crops; and grapes so grown seldom

ripen sufficiently for wine.

The first vineyards established in this country were prepared, as in Europe, by trenching with the spade, two and three feet deep-a very costly proceeding, and not to be recommended in this land of dear labor. In wet, retentive soils, trenching is certainly advantageous; and vineyards so prepared, it is asserted, will remain productive for a century. But why plant on such soils, when suitable land can be obtained at one-fourth the cost of trenching? To trench an acre two feet deep would probably cost \$100 or more. I prefer a more economical plan of preparing the soil for a vineyard-one that will pay a better interest on the investment. In the days of cheap wine that are coming, the sufferers will be those whose vineyards have cost from five hundred to a thousand dollars per acre to make them. On our dry sandy loams, a good ploughing-as for corn-will suffice; and if the earth is cut evenly and carefully to a depth of ten or twelve inches, it will make a bed upon which vines will thrive, if properly cultivated, until the youngest planter becomes an old man. On most soils the preparation will be improved, at little additional cost, by running a one-horse subsoiler after the turning plough. If found desirable, this subsoiling may be done between the rows, after the vines are planted. After ploughing, the ground should be harvested and cross-harrowed until very fine and smooth. If the vineyard is large it should be divided into sections of an acre or less, with cart-roads between them, as this will facilitate all subsequent operations. These may be laid off at different distances, to suit the varieties they are to contain. The rows for all sorts of native vines may be six feet apart. The distance between them in the rows will depend on the variety and mode of training. Slow growers, like the Delaware and Catawba, may be planted six feet apart in the rows. The Concord, Ives, Herbemont, and Clinton, should have eight feet, if trained to stakes, and ten or twelve feet, if supported

by a trellis. The rows should run North and South as near as possible, to give both sides the benefit of the sun.

In laying off a vineyard, most writers recommend putting down a stick or peg where each vine is to grow. This is slow and troublesome, and unless the holes are made with great accuracy, the alignment of the vines will not be very correct. The best and quick-est way is for two men (each provided with a measuring stick and standing on opposite sides of the bed) to stretch a strong line across it, while a third man, provided with a good marking tool, (such as a hand plough or drill barrow,) passes rapidly from side to side, making a neat little furrow close to the line. As it takes but a moment to change the line from row to row, the land is laid off as rapidly as the marker can walk. After all the six foot rows are run out, the line must be stretched across the other way,—that is from east to west,—and the eight foot rows marked in the same manner. Three persons working together in this way, can lay off an acre with perfect accuracy in an hour. The holes should be dug at the intersection of the lines; and, let us say, on the east side of the six foot rows, so that when the vines are inserted, their heads may be placed just where the marks cross. For most roots or cuttings, the holes should be no wider or deeper than the blade of the spade; and the earth taken out should be placed just in front of them, within easy reach of the planter for refilling. The tool I use in planting vines, and all small fruits, is a common hoe, with a handle about a foot long. The planter (stooping to the work) holds the top of the vine in position with one hand, and with this implement rapidly covers the roots with earth. the hole is filled, the ground is pressed firmly around the vine with the foot; and the finishing off may be done at leisure, either with hoes or spades. Except on steep hill sides, vines should not be planted perpendicularly, but the roots should lean more or less from the row, and be set deeper in sandy soils than in clays.

As cuttings are apt to fail, roots-one or two years old-should be planted, though they are much more costly than the former. fresh cuttings can be conveniently obtained, I would advise those who contemplate planting, to purchase them and raise their own roots, Much may thus be saved in the cost of a vineyard. There are a few varieties, however, like the Norton, which will not grow from the cutting, but are propagated by layering. If cuttings are to be planted in a vineyard, they should be very carefully selected and made, by a vine-dresser, who will know the difference between the good and bad parts of a vine. A good cutting should have at least three eyes, be made from a fruit-bearing cane, and if it has a small piece of the old wood attached to it, the roots formed from it will be. more vigorous. Nurserymen too often make their cuttings from twigs and tops of canes, and propagate rare varieties from single eyes.

Roots so grown are of little value for vineyard planting. A good cutting will form as many tiers of roots as it has eyes; which, feeding at different depths in the earth, will secure greater vigor and safety to the plant. When transplanted, these roots (however long) should be shortened in to within three or four inches of the main stem. If any are growing at the head of the vine,—that is, from the same eye that produces the top,-they must be entirely removed. These surface roots will form nearly every year until the vine attains its full development, but they should be cut off at the annual pruning. Being deprived of these feeders, the plant will be compelled to obtain its support from a safe depth. If, as is usual, several branches have grown from the top of a cutting when in the nursery, all but the best should be removed, and that one cut back to two eyes before transplanting. I may state here that in some parts of Europe they bring vines into bearing as early from cuttings as from roots. This is done by scraping the bark here and there between the eyes, and by planting as soon as cut from the vine. Another plan mentioned by French writers is rather singular. It is to bury them for the winter in a trench in a perpendicular position, points downward and butts upward; and cover them with two inches of earth. This, they say, advances their growth by one year. Possibly cuttings of the Norton might be made to strike root if treated in this way. Vineyards should be worked often enough every year to keep them perfectly clean; and with the plough, cultivator, harrow and hoe, according to their condition. The plough should be used early in the spring, and again in autumn, to cover the fallen leaves.

The vineyard being planted, we now have to consider what is usually the most expensive part of the business, viz: the fabric designed to support the vines. If a trellis is to be erected, its cost for one acre, according to Mr.

Husman, will be as follows:

450 posts, 15 feet apart, 10 cts. each	845	00
450 intermediate stakes, 3 cts	13	50
600 lbs. No. 12 wire, 16 cts. per lb	96	00
Cost of erecting trellis	50	00

Total.....\$904 50

This is certainly a large item for men of small means to consider. If the total cost was but \$50 per acre, it would deter me from erecting a trellis, even if its advantages were much greater than they really are. More fruit can be grown on a trellis than on stakes, but quite as much can be raised on the latter as a vine should be allowed to bear in ordinary soils. Again, a trellised vineyard can only be cultivated one way, and the hand labor is much greater than in a staked vineyard, since in the latter, the ploughs can be run in all directions through the rows, leaving but little work for the hoes to do. The use of stakes does not require the vines to be pruned shorter than for a trellis; nor that the bow system of training should be adopted,

though I prefer that method for all slow growing varieties. With the aid of a sharp crow-bar, three or four stakes may with the greatest facility be inserted around a vine, or their positions may be changed with little labor at any time. To these a vine may be trained any time. To these a vine may be trained horizontally or spirally, or in any way best suited to the variety. The stakes should be seven feet long (one foot to go in the ground) and be about two inches thick. A good axeman, working in straight, clear timber, will get out from 500 to 1000 stakes a day. One stake is enough for a vine until it comes into bearing, after which it should have three or four. The business of wine growing would be much simplified, and cost no more than corn growing, if we had vines that could be trimmed and cultivated as low pollards, requiring no supports. Most of the California grapes are grown in this way, and many of the vines of France are trained in what is called the low souche form. The dry climate of the former country, and the comparatively slow growth of the vines in the latter, admit of this practice. Those vines which have stiff canes and short joints, and whose fruit buds are found close to the stock, are best adapted for pollards. By way of experiment, I am about to test a few Delawares in this way. When trained in low souche, the head of the vine should be kept a foot or eighteen inches above the ground; and instead of having two fruit-bearing canes of ten or twelve eyes each (as in our present mode of long pruning) five or six branches should be grown, and be cut back to two or three eyes each. Care should be taken to have these branches on all sides, so as to balance the souchs well. and enable it the better to support its load of fruit. Vines grown in this way require no summer pruning, which is one of the most important labors in our vineyards, since the perfection not only of the growing crop of fruit, but of the wood intended to bear the next crop, depends very much upon its proper execution. It is impossible for me within the limits of a letter, and without the aid of figures, to give an intelligible description of the winter and summer pruning; and to attempt it without engravings would lead to tedious and unprofitable prolixity. All who wish to plant vineyards, should consult some of the many illustrated manuals upon the subject; or visit as often as possible any well kept vineyard within their reach. Every operation and manipulation is simple and easily learned and performed. At the fall or spring pruning, the amount of wood to be left on a vine will depend on the variety, the strength of the soil, and mode of training. A little observation will soon teach any one how much fruit his vines will mature in ordinary seasons, and no more should be permit-ted to grow. Last fall I visited an extensive vineyard in Virginia, in which there were hundreds of bushels of green grapes, which never ripened. The Catawba grape will not even change color if the vine is overladen. The effect of such treatment must be very injurious to the crop of the next year. Young vines should be loaded lightly, and as they advance in age and vigor, more bearing wood

may be left upon them.

The art of pruning seems to have been nearly as well understood in the most ancient times as at present, judging from the many references to it in the old and new Testaments: "Every branch in me that beareth not fruit he taketh away," &c., &c. Here the art of summer pruning is taught as clearly as by any modern writer. Plutarch tells us that among the precepts established by Numa, was one that the Romans should not offer to the gods wine produced from an unpruned vine. This doubtless was to encourage industry in agriculture; but such wine is often unfit to be offered even to mortals. As this letter is already, I fear, too long, I will with your permission resume the subject in my next.

Anne Arundel Co., Md., May, 1873.

Correspondence.

Our Monetary System.

Mesers. Editors of the American Farmer :

Some of your correspondents seem occasionally to intimate that because I deal so largely in political economy, I must be a mere theorist; and evince some little impatience that I do not come to the practical part of the subject. As well might they complain of Liebig and Johnston, because they have not thought proper to arrest their investigations into the truths of Agricultural Chemistry to teach them the art of raising cabbages and potatoes. What can be a more practical question to a poor stripped confederate, than how he is to get Money to enable him to carry on his business? Or, in a still larger sense, what can be a more practical branch of knowledge than that which has been well defined, "the science of wealth, trade and population; and whose end and object are to show how industry may be employed to the best advantage-or how with the least amount of labor and the least waste of materials, the greatest quantity of comfort and enjoyment may be created for the use of man." (Edin. Rev., vol. 43.)

As I am anxious that my teachings may be received with favor, and may be effective, I wish it borne in mind that I am a practical farmer. For more than thirty years before the war, none who read the agricultural journals could doubt the fact, but the old are now so soon forgotten in the eager rush of the young to the front, that I am probably regarded by many of them as a sort of agricultural fossil, and not one of the so-called "live men," who are to give force and direction to the movements of the age. I am one of the very few farmers in Eastern Virginia who has continued to cultivate an callie form

without renting or letting any part of it on shares. We, I say, because my youngest son has now the laboring oar, have worked it with energy and spirit, yet under difficulties, almost sufficient to appal the bravest. Clover and grass have been regularly sowed, yet for three years the heavens seem to have been of brass, and all summer crops have been failures, so much so, that the last crop of corn did not yield enough good grain for seed; and a few years ago I lost more than one thousand dollars in a single crop of wheat in the fertilizer alone,—Turner's Excelsior,—a very good article, I have no doubt, for I had used it before with great success. We have borrowed no money to pay wages, and very little for any purpose. We have been compelled to give orders on the country stores, which practice is not satisfactory to the laborers or agreeable to us. How we have overcome these difficulties it is hard to say. We have practiced great economy and self-denial, have raised everything consumed on the farm, and sold something of every kind; some beeves, veals, lambs and wool, hams and lard; occasionally a young horse, or a good ox, a few vegetables, and a little fruit, and an unlimited number of eggs! We have deemed it wise to diversify the crops, but at the same time, not to neglect the staples which time and experience have shown to be best suited to our soil and climate, and to this end we have this year prepared for three acres of tobacco, the area to be extended in future should the crop be found profitable. The farm is in much better order than it has been since the war. It is dry and clean, and would be rich, if we had the money to make it so. Even the large ornamental garden is in beautiful order, made so, in a great measure, by the labor of my own son's hands. I take no credit to myself for these things, for I have not been in the field for six months. The farm is immediately on the main road, and I invite all passers to view it and the farms of two or three of my neighbors near by, which, cultivated under the same difficulties, appear like oases in a desert, compared with this section generally. We have had no difficulty about labor. It is true that for a We have had no short time the negro, as was natural, liked to enjoy his liberty and to make an unseasonable demonstration at barbecues or musters, as his white fellow-citizens are wont to do; but as the novelty has worn off, we have had no difficulty in this respect; and I repeat what I have often said, that as farm laborers, the negroes have no equals. They are kind and polite, easily satisfied, and when properly treated and promptly paid, there is no difficulty in getting enough of them, even at very moderate wages. Yet they are often abused, as worthless, lazy, idle. They are not lazy, but often idle, as the laborers were when the owner of the vineyard called upon them at the 11th hour and said unto them, "Why stand ye here all the day idle?", "and they say unto him because no man hath hired us. Offer them decent fare and even low wages, and they will very generally gladly enter your

service, and if properly directed will do a fair month's work for a fair month's wages. Such at least is our experience. And such would be the experience of the whole landed interest if they could command even a little money to make a start. Money, Money, Money, is the first and last want, and if there were good sense and patriotism in the country to provide it, which can be readily done by a proper change in our financial system, all legitimate business would become prosperous, the laborers of the country would not "stand here all the day idle," the revenue of the government, which can only arise from the consuming power of labor, which constitutes the wealth of all countries, would be greatly increased, and the people of the producing States would be raised from almost barbarism to the highest state of civilization. The Egyptians were regarded as hard task-

masters when they compelled the Israelites to

make brick without straw. The people of Virginia have had a much harder duty to perform—to produce grain and other crops with-out money. It is known to every farmer that even when the land and teams are owned by the cultivator, he must expend capital and labor a year in advance to produce a crop. The rule, "pay as you go,"—a very wise one under certain circumstances,—seems to be inexorable. So far as unproductive consumption is concerned, it should be a rule almost without exception. But in a country where, from the government expenditures down through all commercial and manufacturing operations, all business is conducted on the most stupendous system of credit, it seems absurd to suppose that farmers alone should be able to conduct theirs on the cash principle, without any facilities of borrowing even the smallest amount, for the shortest time, except at the most enormous usury. Yet such is the necessary effect of the present system. If the government were to add, to-morrow, four hundred millions to its paper currency, the whole of it would be absorbed in speculations in gold and railroad and government securities, and other gambling opera-tions, and not a dollar of it would go, at reasonable interest, to the relief of the farmers. We have no local currency at all. We have nearly two thousand national banks, and the number is constantly increasing. The Pacific States, which for a long time resisted their blandishments, it is feared are about to yield to their importunities. The notes of these banks, whether great or small, are of the same value everywhere, whether issued in New York or Tallahassee, or at Bangor or N. Orleans. They are all sustained by the credit

of the government, and are regarded as good

as long as the government is safe, though liable to great fluctuations with regard to

gold. And whenever there is a great gold or

railroad speculation, requiring large sums of money to sustain the operations, they fly in a

single night, on the wings of the express, to

N. York; and the traders next day, in Lynchburg, Richmond, and other respectable centres

of business, find themselves without the means of getting money to pay bills. This seems very mysterious, but it is not wonderful, when it is known that at such times these notes are worth at N. York 4 of 1 per cent. a day, and sometimes cannot be had at any price. Is there another country of any extent, where the paper system prevails, that has not a local currency to supply the wants of different sections? With just pride it is said by Englishmen, that a note of the bank of England is as good as a gold bill of exchange in any market of the world. Can the same be said of the notes of the English country banks? The New England States had before the war the cheapest and best local currency in the world. It supplied the immense demand of their great home trade, but they relied on something else than their local bank notes to settle their foreign balances. The old banks of Virginia performed pretty much the same function for us; and although their notes were generally to 4 discount in New York, this was rather an advantage, as it kept them at home for a local currency. Look at the condition of France to-day, which is the wonder of the nations. From the day when the late Emperor uttered the sentiment, the "Empire is peace," France became the most prosperous nation in the world. And if he had not been driven by mad ambition or evil counsels into a war, for which his pacific policy had not prepared his country, the world would certainly now award to her the palm of national wealth and greatness. The war was most disastrous. Her territory was overrun, her fortresses captured, many of her principal cities sacked, her splendid capital stormed and occupied by the enemy, and many of the most magnificent monuments of her arts and grandeur defaced by fire or utterly destroyed. In this state of humiliation she was required to pay by the conqueror an indemnity of nearly two thousand millions of dollars in gold! A cruel exaction, which the world thought must bring the speedy downfall of doomed France. What has been the result? On the 20th of September next (only two and a half years from the surrender) the foot of no foreign soldier will rest upon her soil, the last dollar of the indemnity will be paid, and France will again be free! In commenting on this extraordinary achievement, and as-signing proper merit to the respective parties engaged in it, a leading London paper well observes, "We speak of that hardy and long-suffering race of peasants who are the first to feel the unmerited miseries of war, and the first to pay its cost; of the laborers in the fields, the artisans in the workshops, the small farmers and shopkeepers in the provinces, of whom the passing tourist who talks of the incurable levity of the French character sees and hears nothing on the Boulevards of Paris or in the political circles and coteries of Versailles." This wonderful achievement has been effected by a people who had been wisely provided with a sound convertible currency, in amount equal to thirty dollars to each in-

habitant, which stimulated industry, left none idle, and brought the earnings of a whole people into the treasury of the country. Such a result could never have been brought about by paper credit, however bolstered up by na-tional bonds. Look at Scotland! When her banking system was instituted she was the poorest country in Europe. Her commerce, and all her industrial enterprises, especially her agriculture, were in the lowest state of depression. The shrewd and sagacious Scotchmen invented a new principle, to meet the peculiar wants of the people, and particularly the farmers. The banks were authorized, like other banks of issue and discount, to negotiate bills of exchange and promissory notes, but were expected to lend a considerable part of their capital to farmers on "book ac-They agreed with the farmers to give them a standing credit on their books for such sum as would probably meet all the requirements of the farmer for wages and other necessary expenses during the year. This was secured by bond or mortgage. The farmer was charged with interest only on such sums as he actually drew, and that from the day of payment of the check, and the farmer was credited with all payments made by him, however small, on the day actually made. This arrangement made the farmer perfectly He had no dread of protests, and even without a dollar in his pocket, had always an abundance of money, paying no interest, at his order, to meet his demands. A more beneficial system than this can scarcely be conceived of. The effect of it in Scotland was to lift the people from a state of despair to the highest hope, and industry, in all its branches, revived at once. The same system still con-Her banks are perfectly safe, and when the country banks in Eugland were breaking by scores, these remained firm-and whatever might be the revulsions in trade, and though bank notes might occasionally find their way from home, yet the "book ac-counts" could not go, and the farmer slept foundly and carried on his business securely. This is precisely what we want in Maryland and Virginia, and indeed throughout all the producing States, South and West. Have we not sense enough to establish such a system? Unquestionably we have, and we may readily establish it if the people, without distinction of party, will go to the polls and with one voice command their representatives in Congress to repeal the law which abolished State banks, by the taxing power—the most flagrant violation of the Constitution and of the rights of the people and the States, that was ever perpetrated or acquiesced in during peace. Congress has precisely the same right, by the taxing power, to legislate out of existence every State court.

I have not space in this article to pursue this branch of the subject. I will, for the present, content myself with the remark, that you are entirely mistaken in supposing that Alexander Hamilton, if living, would dissent from one word of the principles advocated in

these papers. He was a great statesman and a true patriot, and though not of my political school, I am perfectly willing that what I have written shall be judged by the standard of his principles, as illustrated by his writings in the Federalist and in his official State papers. I hope in my next to show that the question, "what shall we do?" has been satisfactorily answered.

WILLOUGHBY NEWTON. Linden, Westmoreland Co., Va., May 6, 1873.

Acclimating the Cereal and Vegetable Crops.

To the Editors of the American Farmer:

With the exception of old experienced seed growers and venders of seed the knowledge and importance of acclimation is scarcely known in this country. A want of practical experience by American garden seed dealers is patent; the inexperienced greatly predomi-

Indian corn grown north or east of the city of New York, will scarcely produce an average crop in the Southern States short of the third year's successive seeding. English wheat requires no acclimation, but the size of the grain when seeded in the United States gradually becomes smaller, the same as our common bearded or bald wheat, and according to the authority of London bakers, an equal quantity of American wheat will produce more and better bread than English. The same remarks apply to imported Mediterranean wheat.

Winter wheat, rye and barley will produce average crops the third year after successive

spring seeding, and visa versa.

VEGETABLE CROPS.—The large late cabbage and Savoy seed, imported from England or the Continent, will produce nothing but leaves, or rather unsatisfactory results, till the third year's successive seeding. On the contrary, seed of early Yorks and other early sorts, head as perfectly as American grown seed. Imported beet, carrot and parsnip for culinary purposes, mangel wurzel, sugar beet, field carrot, ruta baga and the various yellow and white turnips are coarse, and deficient in saccharine matter—all these require accli-mating, or the seed grown from strictly American stocks.

With the exception of the following vegetable seeds, all others not named can be imported with safety, viz: Beans—Lima, Snap or String—Cymblin or Summer Squash, Winter Squash, Pumpkin, Tomato, Cucumber, Egg-plant, Melons, Onions and Lettuce.

THE VETCH AGAIN.—Since sending you an article for the May No. of the American Farmer relative to the Vetch, and having noticed your companies on the same I will add of

your comments on the same, I will ald, if you please, that I recently read an advertisement by a Canadian merchant that he had for sale Vetch seed grown last summer in Canada. If the Vetch will mature seed in Canada, I cannot see why they will not mature in this country. The plant, vines and pods are similar

to the garden pea, which requires no acclimation, neither (I opine) does the Vetch. I have sown half an acre with a small quantity of oats and flaxseed. If I am spared I will send you samples cut in the flower and in the matured stock. Your cautionary comments are doubtless proper, and if generally followed by other proprietors of agricultural journals, would save the unwary from loss and disappointment. I presume you are aware, gentlemen, that I have no pecuniary interest in recommending the Vetch or any other plant.

Vetch seed is black and roundish, averaging the width of American wheat. No fan screen or sieve would separate it from wheat; but by cutting it in, the flower for forage, for which its chief value consists, there can be no risk of mixtur... The Roman Catholic Bible alludes to Coekle and Mustard, but makes no allusion to Tares. PLOWMAN.

Baltimore Co., Md., May 2, 1873.

Protection to Farmers by Legal Enactments.

To the Editors of the American Farmer:

Agriculture being the main source from which supplies for all classes, trades, and occupations are drawn, should be better protected in Virginia, if not in other States, by special legislation. Wholesome restraints and advantages should be procured. Fence laws, dog laws, and bird laws, should be the order of the day, and claim the special attention of our legislators. Who can estimate the impetus this great branch of industry would receive from judicious and efficient legislation in these directions, not to mention others of still greater moment.

It has been shown that the fencing of the farms cost more than that of all the houses, ships, boats, &c. of the country. Fencing stock in is much cheaper than fencing stock out. If fenced in, quarrels, fights, and law-suits are avoided, and crops much better protected, and all classes would find it easier, sufer and cheaper to make a short fence to keep them in than a long one to keep them out. The disadvantages are, that probably less stock would be raised if fenced in, as more feeding would be required; but, as an offset to that, better breeds would be selected and they would be better fed. As to manure, the capital of the farmer, more would be saved from the fewer cattle enclosed than a greater number running at large.

Many farmers desire to raise sheep, but the dogs will not allow it. They roam scot free—and their name is legion. On a farm of only 250 acres in Albemarle Co., Va., there are, to the certain knowledge of the writer, 17 dogs, all counted, of all breeds, from the squeaking fice to the surly mastiff. It can be readily seen what chance the proprietor of that farm, or his neighbors have to raise a flock of sheep, the important source of clothing and food for his family; or, if he choose to sell, to aid in securing a pietoric purse—for this is a profit-

able avocation. On this same farm there are 11 hogs, the dogs having a majority of sixno sheep here of course-and it takes about as much to keep one dog as one hog; and, what is most astonishing, although many of these cur owners are extremely poor, they will feed and raise these worthless dogs by divi-ding with them the bread and stinting their own children. And this is not all the loss and mischief. The presence of dogs is an incentive to their owners, (we are speaking more particularly of the freedmen) to range and prowl about farms and wood-lands, losing valuable time from day to day in search of game-"small deer"-a sufficiency of which is seldom secured for one meal, during a day's hunt, for one man. And thus many days are lost from business, and at times when the farmer most needs their labor.

Now as to the birds—for their sake we would almost submit to prohibitory restrictions on powder and shot to secure the preservation of the sweet songsters of the groves and special friends of the farmer—for they are all friends in some way; not only devouring injurious insects, the bane of our crops and orchards, but as useful scavengers, promoting general health—even the crow is useful in this way.

Instead of encouraging the small birds to build nests and rear their young among our groves and orchards, if one should venture a song, he is at once liable to a leaden death. The poor robin, for instance, one of our best workers and songsters, is ruthlessly shot from off some fence or tree top. Listen some fine spring morning and you will hear the guns. The poor birds are slaughtered, exterminated, driven from the farms; and with almost no advantage to the sportsman—for a dozen or two would hardly make him a meal.

In a word, we would spare the small birds.—We would do away with cur dogs and worthless canines generally—and we would like to see some legal steps taken to lessen the burden of endless fencing imposed upon our farmers. If, by judicious laws, these and other impediments to successful farming and grazing should be removed, we should soon see our hills, plains, and vallies teening with white flocks, and herds of browsing cattle—crops and orchards secured, and all the sources of wealth, resuscitation, and prosperity, would be ours, and in a degree surpassing any flush times yet seen in the South.

J. Fitz.

Albemarle Co., Va.

"What Shall We Do"

To be saved—financially—from the many and growing evils which like a wall of circumvallation circumstances have thrown around us? Labor and capital we'll say, then, are the grand levers to move us. Labor, we may say, is all in all, for without labor we cannot get the capital. Now to obtain this labor and to retain it is the great desideratum of the Southern farmer—(I won't say planter, for this word should be obsolete with us in its old acceptation—but we all should be farmers, i. e.

I mean not such large cultivators but good cul-

tivators.)

The old slave is gradually learning the truth, that next to God the best friend he has or ever will have is his old master, for the negro with all his readiness for the new-the strange-the marvellous—has strong perceptive faculties, and though often emotionally led astray, are the quickest people on earth to return to their true interest, and the last on earth to be caught in the same evil trap. You will hear him exclaim in all his native shrewdness and simplicity, "dis nigger don't warm by dat fire any more." Would that his white brothers would follow his example here. Now that the negro has seen his errors and returned to his first love, would it not be well for us to review our own journal. Let us treat him kindly, justly—give him all for his services they are worth and never deceive him; it is the nature of a negro to stand even harsh treatment better than a duplex nature over him-and in your kind treatment, never so lose sight of your own self-respect as to socialize with him; if you do, you at once subvert your influence and destroy your mutual interest. You may concede to him all the immunities and privileges which he enjoys under Providence and his government, and may go so far as to even encourage his education in all the systems and branches which you may yourself enjoy-but avoid the suicidal policy of making him believe he is as good as you are—he will drop you at once, and naturally and justly should-your veneering being so thin, you breed his contempt.

Eschew politics altogether with him; never ask him how he is going to vote-for whom or what party or for your choice-never allow them to think you are under any obligations to them only so far as their demeanor may command—and always so treat them that they will respect your for your judicial, strait forward, manly course—and above all things be certain to be prompt to the hour with them, even in the smallest matter-then you will be sure of his labor, his respect and confidence, and you may rely upon his remaining steadily with you, which will relieve you of that most onerous task of each successive crop, to look up new labor. Foreigners, I think, as a class are more nomadic in their nature than negroes, and their local attachments not so strong. A negro, if he is well fixed and you so act as to command his respect, will be loth to leave you. This hue and cry (which you see in so many of your exchanges) of "scarcity of labor" is, in a great measure, traceable to the farmer himself -the impecuniosity of the times forcing the farmer to measures often undignified and unjust-falsely offering big wages to get more hands than his neighbor, and often times proposing terms which if complied with would be of a ruinous nature. This placing the la-borer up to the highest bidder, creates a restive disposition in him and forces the planter sometimes to do without hands or to propose terms he knows he cannot comply with with-

out acting fraudulently, in the way of over charges, to balance his books—but never his conscience. The system of tenantry is evidently the best—it saves the farmer many vexations and the laborer much care and suspicion—(my views four years ago were the reverse.) As to ourselves, let us drop all party names and vote only for those North or South who we believe will administer justice to all. Drop sectarian feelings and let our aversion be only to those who are trying to steal what little is left in a once full treasury and that fair name we once held proudly amongst the nations of the earth.

JNO. D. THORNE. Halifax Co., N. C., May, 1873.

Random Thoughts.

To the Editors of the American Farmer :

Gentlemen:-The farmer, the planter, the tiller of the soil, the producer of the raw material, are the staff and support of the nation. Ignorance may contradict it, but intelligence can prove it. If you shut off the water from the wheel, the wheel immediately begins to cease its motion—and if you stop the production of the raw material, all other industries or occupations begin to flag, and if continued, will die. So I say to the producers of the raw material, magnify your profession; the cultivation of the soil is the oldest and most honorable of all professions. When God placed Adam and Eve in the garden of Eden he told them to dress it and tend it. It is a profession that requires more intelligence than all others, though not generally thought so. It used to be said, if a man had a son, who was slow at learning, that as he is not fit for any of the so-called learned professions, "we will make a farmer of him." What an erroneous idea! As I said before, stop production, and all other industries begin to flag and die; the butcher will have no stock to kill and sell, the manufacturer no raw material upon which to employ his skill and labor, and the railroad and canal, nothing to transport-and so with the merchant, nothing to sell; and all would be affected by it. But how few think of these things; they begin to form rings for what they call protection, but which I call their destruction; aggression, like the measles, is catching; like begets like; I am opposed to all rings, so called; they are all forming rings, and although the farmers are slow, yet they are beginning to do the same thing, and when completed, then will come the tug of war.

There are some things that come by observation, so I say to the farmer, magnify your profession. You say, that is just what I would like to do, but in what way? Well, I will tell you: neither deceive any one, nor do any thing by which any one may be deceived; do not put a gloss over anything by which it may be made to look good when it is not; or exaggerate your stock or wares above their merits, rather a little under than over. You say, am I my brother's keeper, to ascertain

the extent, I am bound not to deceive him, or wilfully suffer him to be deceived? rogue is an honest man as compared with some people in this world, and it will be more tolerable in the day of judgment for him than it will be for the others. You ask, who are they? I answer, all those that put on the cloak of honesty for the purpose of deceiving and making what they call a good bargain, a profitable business. The man that manufac-tures a thing worth not more than five dollars, and calls it a fertilizer, and sells it for forty or fifty dollars-the farmer who exaggerates his stock above its merits-the merchant that does the same with his goods-the lawyer that encourages suits for the purpose of gain-the doctor that palms off quack nostrums on the trusting public, and the editor who publishes these things-and, finally, the minister who is sent to preach peace, but who preaches war instead of peace. I have said that some things come by observation; I have observed that on the northwest side of a forest or woods, that the trees generally are more stunted and die faster than in the middle or on the east side, and I believe the reason is that the winds blow all the leaves from around the trees on that side, leaving the roots more exposed to the cold, and depriving them of their necessary shelter and nourishment. I have also observed that in a field where the farmer did not pasture in the fall, the next year the grass was much more flourishing on that field than on those that had been grazed until winter set in. This ought to teach us not to graze too late or too close, but to give the grass a chance to put forth some leaves to shelter the roots when winter comes.

Yours, &c. F. A. Lewis.

Jefferson Co., W. Va.

A Visit to Albemarle Co., Va.

Editors of the American Furmer:

Having been born and lived on a farm for some forty-eight years, although I now reside in the city of Wilmington, Del., I still delight to look over good farms and read agricultural works. Having some business requiring me to go to Virginia, I took the train that leaves Wilmington for Washington, D. C., and on the morning of the 30th of April left Alexandria for Charlottesville, 110 miles distant on the O., A. and M. Railroad. It being a bright, lovely day, and vegetation some two weeks earlier in Virginia than in Northern Delaware, and having just passed through a long, cold winter, I felt in just the mood to enjoy the pleasant change. After leaving Alexandria, you pass for some eight or ten miles through rather a fine agricultural country, with but little timber and poor fences; for the next thirty miles, or till you reach Bull's Run, the land is covered with timber, with the exception of an occasional farm. From Manassas to Gordonsville the face of the country is mostly bold, but little wood or fences are seen, and but little of the land under cultivation,

although apparently a good soil; and by a good system of farming, might be made very productive. From Gordonsville to Charlottesville, a distance of twenty miles, you pass through a hilly country, with a splendid view of the Blue Mountains on the right, and the South Mountains on the left. Charlottesville, the county seat of Albemarle Co., is beautifully situated, the mountains being in view on all sides; it has a population of 5000, contains some fine stores and private residences, and the far-famed Virginia University. About two miles to the east is Montahel Mountain, on the top of which is the home of the late Presi-

dent Jefferson.

Having met Mr. G. C. Gilmer, who has written so many good articles for your paper, and receiving from him a cordial invitation to visit him at his home, which is nine miles from Charlottesville, on Buck Island Creek, I hurried through my business and went to his hospitable mansion, where I received a most cordial welcome. Mr. Gilmer is a true type of a real Virginia gentleman. He owns some 3000 acres of land in the county, and I have no hesitation in saying that the plantation on which he resides is the best fenced, best tilled, and has more grass than any ten farms I have seen in the state. Having been kindly shown over his farm, I found everything was done in a systematic manner, he holding that that which is worth doing at all is worth doing well. Owing to the severe winter he will have but a light wheat crop; in fact, the wheat looks badly throughout the state, many fields being eaten up with the fly. Mr. G. is trying to get his land in grass, intending to devote his entire attention to stock raising and feeding for market. He has a flock of 100 sheep, which are the finest in the county; they sheared on an average 8 lbs. wool per head, the buck yielding 14 lbs.; his horses, cattle, and in fact all his stock, are of the most improved breeds. There is on his home farm a fine deposit of slate of a superior quality for roofing or mantle purposes.

He tells me his plantation on the Hardware River is a very superior property, having some 400 acres of meadow, which has been planted in corn for the last 50 years, and will now yield from 50 to 60 bushels per acre; he is willing to sell this farm, and will take from \$20 to \$25 per acre, and make the payments very accommodating. It seems strange to me that men hunting land to make themselves homes, should go West, where they will pay more per acre than they can buy the same quality of land for in Virginia, whilst buying here they will be close to good markets, have cultivated and refined society, and a climate unsurpassed for health by any in the United States. Mr. G.'s system of buying and selling for cash, he assured me is the true one, and he finds it to work admirably

Having spent two days and nights with Mr. G., I reluctantly bade him and his family good-bye, with the promise that if I ever came to that part of Virginia again, to make him

house my home.

And here let me say, that in all my intercourse with the people of this part of Virginia, and it has been considerable, I invariably received the most kind and friendly treatment, and would recommend all persons seeking homes to look at this part of Virginia before purchasing elsewhere.

Feeling that I have already occupied too much of your time and space, I remain truly yours,

H. CHANDLER.

Wilmington, Del., May, 1873.

Tobacco Culture in New England-No. 5.

To the Editors of the American Farmer:

In my last I indicated the attention and culture given the crop during the month of June, the necessary ground culture up to harvesting-the whole being of the clean thorough During the month of July having, harvesting of grain, etc., occupy considerable of the farmer's time, so that for a week or two the tobacco gets but little attention, except on cloudy days, or to pick off the green worms -the previous attention given puts it in such condition that it does not suffer; if likely to get weedy, etc., a day or two is taken to dress it out. Very little else is done to the crop than heretofore indicated during July; unless an extra piece runs up for topping the latter part of the month; the most part of top-ping is done after the first of August, and perhaps I might as well describe this operation here as at a future time.

Topping.-In our culture we aim to obtain an even growth, such that a considerable or certain contiguous portion of the field, shall come to this stage at the same time; however, the best intents sometimes fail, and the tobacco does not "button" even; then we allow the field to go so that we can top as large a proportion as we can without detriment to the most forward, and top the other as fast as it comes in size of growth, meaning to get the whole of the plants topped by the 20th, or at least two weeks before harvesting, or thereabouts. The exact point to top the plant is a matter of judgment rather than of any other rule. Some go to the nicety of topping to a certain number of leaves, but the most experienced look at the plant, size of upper leaves, etc., and judging from the field taken together, and past experience, top where they judge the field will average, as they like to see the whole field, or as large a portion of it as possible, topped at an uniform height. We have no further arbitrary rule for topping than to top where, in our judgment, the plants will fully mature all their leaves, and yet without wasting by topping too low. ping, we endeavor to make a clean break, or cut with a knife, for if the stalk is left with a split. bruise, etc., at the top, water settles in and often causes the stem to decay, or injures the petioles of the leaves, causing the leaves to fall off, etc. The height, or number of leaves on the plant, after topping, depends altogether on the growth of the plants, sometimes it averages 2½ feet, sometimes the height of the shoulders of an ordinary man, but more generally the stalk, when cut at the surface of the ground, will measure 2½ feet, varying little if any therefrom, giving some 16 or 18 leaves. It will be seen that experience and good judgment are rather relied upon than any arbitrary rules, so that it is almost impossible to give any written instruction whereby the novice can be guided absolutely.

A few years since a Western man came into a field of tobacco on our farm where the men were topping; after looking a while he remarked: "If these men were topping for me, I should send them off the field, for they throw away nearly as much length in growth as we get at the West when full grown." The plants had run up pretty well to blossom. The great fear, often, of the novice is, that he shall waste some growth, and he tops so high that there are some leaves which do not mature, are small, and the rest are smaller and poorer than if the plant were topped lower.

Worms.—The green worm, previously stated as the larva of the Sphinx quinquemaculatus, is sometimes very troublesome, other seasons they are very much less so; at such times the crop is given a good deal of attention in worming, often worming every day; and while worming, the eggs of the moth are looked after and destroyed. These eggs are laid singly on the under side of the leaves, seldom more than one on the same leaf, and to the inexperienced passed by unnoticed, as they are small and nearly the color of the leaf on which they are fastened. I may be pardoned for the repetition above, as it is of such importance that the worms be kept off, as if the tobacco is eaten it becomes ragged and unsalable when cured-every care is used in keeping the leaves all perfect through all the manipulations of the crop. The moth-Sphinx quinquemaculatus-is an interesting study to the naturalist, being one of the largest of the nocturnal, or other species; it so nearly resembles the Sphinx Carolina, which has been so fully written up in former volumes of the American Farmer, that it would be superfluous for me to go over similar ground with a less fertile pen. Succoring and further care of the crop I leave for a fu-W. H. WHITE. ture article.

Westborough, Mass., May 15, 1873.

St. Louis Convention.—This convention was held to consult about the feasibility of certain great plans of internal communication between the West and the Atlantic Seaboard, and a number of members of Congress were invited and attended the conference. Gov. Walker, of Va., presided. Resolutions were adopted urging upon Congress the completion of the James River and Kanawha canal, the Atlantic and Great Western canal, and the Fox and Wisconsin river improvement; also a resolution in favor of the Niagara ship canal.

The Apiary.

Bee-Keeping for Women.

To the Editors of the American Farmer:

I desire to occupy a portion of your valuable space in presenting to your female readers the subject of bee-keeping, as one of the pursuits deserving their careful and especial consideration, feeling assured that even a slight inspection of its duties, advantages and disadvantages will convince them that within its sphere lies a ready means of increasing their income, and in many cases rendering them even independent, in worldly means, of more arduous and confining labors. Even under the old management, with luck as the presiding deity of the destiny of the bee-keeper, how many farmers' wives or daughters through the land do we find as caring for the bees and having so much better luck than the male members of the family. This, in my opinion, is easily accounted for, by their care and attention to the little things that the farmer would think beneath his notice. It is this care and attention that is the centre of beekeeping success, and who is so well fitted for it as the woman whose whole life from childhood has been made up of little cares and comforts, in the same manner as the stores of sweets in the hive are the accumulation of many minute portions of Nature's nectar, gathered through the hours of the day in many a trip from home to flower and back, even as the busy housewife flits from duty to duty. That woman is peculiarly fitted for bee-keeping has been demonstrated not only in the past, but also under the brighter light of progressive bee-culture, as shown by Mrs. Tupper, Miss Wood and many others who, within the past fifteen years, have been diligently pursuing such a course, reaping not only a pecuniary but an intellectual reward, that has repaid a large dividend on time spent and inconveniences submitted to.

To the nervous, easily excited woman, who cannot hear the buz of a bee without feeling convinced she will be stung. I would say, let bee-keeping alone-but to the calm, reasoning woman, who can quietly stand and investi gate the intentions of the insect when alighting on a flower near her, I would say, look well into the subject, and see if there is not within it a germ that, with the same care and patience the sex so often devote to other matters, will produce a plant that will in a short time become to your home as the vine and fig tree of old, nourishing and protecting with its treasures (gathered from many sources) the depending loved ones of the family. To such I would say, my experience has con-vinced me that there is not as much danger of a female being stung as a male of the same temperament, and to all I would say that, upon a thorough acquaintance, the sting of a bee becomes like the bugbear of our child-hood days, a thing to laugh at. When I first

began to handle bees, a sting upon my hand would swell up my arm, but now it does not cause me as much inconvenience as a musquito bite, and it is seldom I get stung; in fact, when I do, it is from my own careless-

Bee-keeping being one of the home surroundings, it appropriately belongs to woman, as much as the care of the chickens and turkeys, and will pay a much larger dividend upon capital and time invested than either or both, if conducted with a portion of the knowledge, care and intelligence that are absolutely necessary in successfully rearing the poultry mentioned. Such knowledge is as easily acquired and as simple, needing only intelligence, observation and steadiness in her who designs to successfully pursue the same.

I will here close this article, giving more on the subject in future numbers, if any of your

patrons are desirous thereof.

The Bee-Hive Controversy.

To the Editors of the American Farmer:

The reply of "C. W. B." to my criticism on "Bees and Bee-Hives" entirely waives the important point of such criticism, and assumed it to be an attack on the hive of his invention. If "C. W. B." will carefully reread my article, I think he will find it an attack upon conveying to the partially informed bee-keeper statements made in the interest of some patent hive, when such statements would not (in my opinion) bear the light of criticism, either rude or gentle, when made by any one acquainted with the subject. As to the hive of "C. W. B.," I do not know but that it may be the best ever made. As I have never seen it, or a model thereof, I cannot assume anything either for or against it, but I do know some of the statements made in the March No., pp. 108 and 109, were so entirely different to my experience in bee-keeping, that I felt assured, if the author of the same was correct, it would be a benefit to the apiarians of the United States to bring to light, through the columns of the "Farmer," his record of experiments and statistics upon which such assertions were founded, and as an individual, I would be the first to openly honor the one who, from facts and figures, convinces me of the errors of my own con-clusions. I trust that "C. W. B." will publish a synopsis of his mode of definitely settling the fact that queens rarely die the first year (the article criticised said three years) and often live five years—and also give the results reached in each of the various cases experimented with to reach that conclusion. He will certainly confer a favor on me by giving the names of the bee-keepers of the country who endorse the above fact.

As to my asserting the particular hive of "C. W. B." had been rushed through the Patent Office, I cannot find anything of the kind in my article. I did speak of the theoretical patent hive man, and that "Bees and

Bee-Hives" bore the impress of having been written by such, in the interest of some patent hive, and "C. W. B." acknowledges it was written to help to sell such a hive. As to the rules for using such hive, I did not refer to them in the least, and am in the dark as to what "sweeping assertions facts show are without foundatiou," neither do I know what is claimed for the hive, therefore such claims can be either "common bee sense," or nonsense, without in the least affecting the pith or point of my criticism.

As I not only like to be corrected, but also am always auxious that misconceived ideas or wrong deductions shall be exploded, I trust the requests made above will be complied with, and the charge of having attacked the hive mentioned will be withdrawn until after

such attack is made.

Trusting that a result beneficial to the pursuit will grow from the entire matter, and that I may have the pleasure of becoming better acquainted with "C. W. B." to mutual improvement, I leave the correctness of my criticism to the consideration and decision of others.

P.

VIRGINIA LANDS.

Mr. Wm. Holman, of Cartersville, Va., furnishes us with some facts concerning the productiveness of the lands in his section, in addition to those given in our last. He says:

"Mr. B. S. Robinson, one of the gentlemen alluded to, and who, by the way, is a subscriber to the Furmer, was to see me a few days ago, and gave me some further particulars of his crop of last year. He says that he had only four regular hands, that his labor and fertilizers cost him \$800, and other expenses about \$500, making \$1,300 the entire cost, and that his wheat and tobacco crops brought him \$2,300 in cash, showing a net profit over and above all expenses of \$1,000. The total gross product, including corn, oats, &c., being about \$3,000. Mr. Robinson's farm is naturally one of the poorest in this region, but has been much improved by his good management.

There is no doubt of the fact that these lands do produce most astonishing crops when

well cultivated.

Mr. J. B. Gunn, another subscriber, who is cultivating that splendid estate, "Elk Island," on the James, made on some of his bottom lands last year 38 bushels of wheat per acre.

Another subscriber, Mr. J. S. Adams, in 1869, on his farm, made with six hands upward of 30,000 pounds of tobacco, which netted him \$3,000.

Now tell me of a Northern farmer on lands that can be bought for from \$8 to \$10 per acre who can measure up to these results!"

The Governors' Convention which met at Atlanta, Geo., on 20th May, adopted a memorial to Congress in favor of the great water lines from South and West to the East.

Bive Stock.

Ayrshires in Maryland.

It was formerly the case that this valuable race of cattle was well represented in this State, but of late years they seem to have lost the deserved prominence they formerly occupied, and we now know of but one herd of any considerable numbers, this being the property of Mr. Charles K. Harrison, of Baltimore county.

We recently had the opportunity of inspecting some of the numerous fine animals comprised in it, although to our regret, many of the younger females were away upon a farm

of Mr. Harrison's in Virginia.

Of the older bulls there are two in use, Glenluce, 4 years, red and white, a fine masculine type of the race, very wide across the back, but also excellent about the fore quarter, and Sandy, of same age, dark red and white, flecked and running together, short in the leg, a more refined or delicate specimen than the other, and with every appearance of being an animal of great merit.

There were three young bulls of last spring, all very handsome, one of which, Lord Clyde, dark red, with white spots, we were fortunate in securing for Mr. Heuser, of Prince William, Va., another of same color goes to Col. Lewis, of Clarke, Va., and the third, nearly all white, will be retained by his breeder.

Of the cows, Miss Meikle, 4 years, an imported cow, is a pattern of her race. She is almost entirely white, with a few flecks of red, beautiful in shape, and giving in every feature and movement the assurance of the merit she is known to possess; Tibby and Duchess, each 3 years old, red and white mingled, both handsome, substantial cows, short legged, broad behind, and tapering off forward, like a wedge, with capacious and handsomely shaped udders, and prominent and well defined escutcheons. Meryton Lass, an imported heifer, in color dark red with but little white, struck us as being one of the best conditioned Ayrshires we had ever seen, and a younger one of about a year, bred here, whose name has slipped us, possesses a noticeably clean-cut head, and delicate limbs, giving every promise of turning out "a perfect beauty."

As noted above, many of the cows which

are to come in this spring were absent, but we saw enough to satisfy us that Mr. Harrison has the foundation for a herd of great excellence and value.

The Ayrshires, as most of our readers know, are proverbially a race of milkers, producing on equal rations a larger quantity of milk than any other breed, if we except, perhaps, the Dutch cattle. In size they are not large, and considerable difference exists in their markings, the prevailing colors being red and white mixed in varying proportions. They are usually very active, but docile, and will gather a subsistence and yield good returns of milk in pastures which would not support animals of other breeds. They are entirely hardy.

Mr. Harrison is engaged in dairy farming, sending milk twice daily to the city, and some account of his operations would doubtless be acceptable to many of our readers, but the space at our command so late in the month as the date of our visit to his farm forbids more than some short notes.

The system pursued is one of mixed pasturing and soiling. The cattle are turned out at all seasons of the year for exercise, and in summer for some pasturage, but in connection with what they gather for themselves, they are fed twice daily with green food and mill

The green crops grown are wheat, occasionally rye, oats, clover, sowed corn—of which used green, Mr. H. thinks highly, but cure?, little esteems—and millet.

Of sowed corn, instead of the usual succession ordinarily recommended and practiced, he makes but one sowing, using from six to eight bushels of seed to the acre, sown in drills three feet apart, in order to get a growth of small and fine stalks. These are cultivated several times, and are not cut until they are fully in tassel, that secured at an earlier stage being esteemed utterly valueless. The corn is cut with a two fingered cradle, and that not consumed green is tied in bundles to cure.

To keep up the flow of milk of the cows in winter, great reliance is placed upon the root crops. Last year, in a bad season, about 4,000 bushels were grown, the mangels costing the very small sum of 5 cents per bushel, and this spring there are already sowed and up ten acres of mangels, one of sugar beefs and one of carrots. Besides these, a crop of Swedes is raised for the sheep, of which there

is a small flock of Oxford-Downs, besides a considerable one of Western sheep, which are wintered over. Of the Oxford-Downs Mr. H. speaks very highly. They are larger than the South-Downs, the ewes averaging 150 lbs. weight. They are very prolific, almost always producing twins, frequently triplets, and rarely single lambs. The average weight of the fleeces of the flock, including all ages, has been about ten pounds.

There is also on this farm a small flock of Angora goats, and we likewise noticed a pair of two year old Percheron colts.

Of the barn and stables, with their convenient arrangements for feeding, the dairy for cooling the milk, &c., we must for the present defer speaking. All of the farm that we saw was in excellent condition, and bore the fullest evidence of being conducted under an intelligent and comprehensive system.

Reports on Swine.

We published soon after its session, some of the proceedings of the National Swine-breeders' Convention, and promised to give additional extracts from the reports of the committees on the several breeds. Our live stock department, however, has since been so largely engrossed with other matters, that we have not been able to carry out our intention. We gave the report on Berkshires, and the general characteristics required for "the most profitable hog for the raiser and consumer." We will now give the report on the

POLAND CHINA.—The best specimens have good length, short legs, broad, straight backs, deep sides, flanking well down on the leg, very broad, full square hams and shoulders, drooping ears, short heads, wide between the eyes, of spotted or dark color; are hardy, vigorous and prolific, and when fat, are perfect models all over, pre-eminently combining the excellencies of both large and small breeds.

Chester, or Jeffenson Co., N. Y., Swine.—They are pure white, with a very thin skin of pink color, with little hair; are not uniform in this respect, as pigs in the same litter differ widely in the amount of hair; the snout is often long, but very slender and fine; the jowls are plump and the ears erect, fine and thin; the shoulders are wide and the hams fuller; the flesh of these hogs is fine-grained, and they are commended on account of the extra amount of mess pork in proportion to the amount of offal; the tails of the pigs frequently drop off when young.

quently drop off when young.

CHESTER WHITES.—The Committee report that this breed originated in Chester Co., Pa.; that "the first impulse to the improvement of

swine in this country was induced by the introduction of a pair of fine pigs, brought from Bedfordshire, in England, by Capt. Jas. Jef fries, and put upon his farm near the county seat of Chester county, in 1818." From this pair, by judicious crossing, "the present valuable well-formed, good-sized, easily-fatfened and good bacon hog, called Chester Whites, and now a well established breed, originated." The following was given by the Committee as a scale of points: Head short, broad between the eyes; ears thin, projecting forward and lap at the point; neck short and thick, jowl large, body lengthy and deep, broad on back; hams full and deep; legs short, and well set under for bearing the weight; coating thinnish white, straight, and if a little wavy not objectionable; small tail, and no bristles.

THE ESSEX —The Essex is a black hog originating in the south of England. They are of small to medium in size, and are extensively used in England to cross on the large, coarse swine, to improve their fattening qualities. The best specimens may be known as follows: Color. black; face, short and dishing; ears, small, soft, and stand erect while young, but coming down somewhat as they get age; carcass, long, broad, straight and deep; ham, heavy and well let down; bone, fine; carcass, when fat, composed mostly of lard; hair. ordinarily rather thin. The fattening qualities being very superior; as breeders they are very prolific and are good nurses.

THE MODEL HOG.—In a recent discussion before the Farmers' Club of St. Louis, Prof. C. W. Murtfeldt said: since the attention of farmers has been given to developing the hog, animals eleven months old that weigh 300 or 325 pounds are often seen. It used to be considered a good hog that reached 300 pounds in his eighteenth month. This is the most desirable hog for packers, and the "Berkshire" fills the bill nearer than any other breed. The "Poland China" is considered unprofitable, except for the matter of lard. In this latitude, and south of it, a black hog is preferable to a white one, because it can stand the heat better. If I wanted a pig to eat, drink and sleep, I should choose the "Suffolk," but the model hog is the "Berkskire."

Breeds of Sheep.

A correspondent of the National Live Stock Journal expressed a wish to see "a full and fair description of the Cotswold, Leicester and Lincoln sheep," whereupon the Journal proceeds as follows:

The Leicesters are usually placed at the head of the long-wool breeds, as being the finest in form and fleece, and also because it has been largely used in crossing, for the improvement of the other varieties.

The head is hornless, and rather long and narrow; ears thin, with spots of bluish tinge. The long, well cut ear of the pure Leicester, with its slightly backward inclination, is a distinguishing characteristic of the breed, as is also the full prominent eye, with quiet and lively expression. The face and forehead must be bare of wool, though covered with a fine coat of hair—white, with a little inclination to the bluish tint.

The body is straight; with ribs well sprung and barrel-shaped; the pelt inclined to be thin; the wool exceedingly soft, fine and lustrous, and should be uniform over the

carcass.

The extremities—muzzle and legs—are exceedingly fine, but the quarters are full and wide, with back broad and level. Indeed the carcass of the true Leicester sheep is as near perfection in form as can be conceived possible.

The Cotswold, though of late years modified by the crosses of the Leicester blood, and therefore strongly resembling that breed, is somewhat coarser and longer in carcass, with a heavier fleece, which should be as lustrous, though not so fine as the Leicester. The head is larger, and must have a tuft of wool on the forehead, which the Leicester never has.

The Lincoln is as large as the Cotswold, though in other respects, as now bred, very strongly resembling the Leicester. The head is long, the face narrow and bare of wool, with white fine hair and light bluish tint as in the Leicester. They stand rather higher on the leg than the two varieties before mentioned, and the carcass is apt to be less symmetrical, but the fleece is longer and heavier, and though not quite so fine as the Leicester, is unsurpassed in lustre, and therefore commands the best prices in the markets.

It is difficult to describe animals so as to enable a person to determine the pure bred from the mongrel; indeed, the best judges are not always able to detect the presence of a

slight dash of inferior blood.

One thing the producer may rely upon, that long-wool sheep peddled about the country at low prices are never pure-bred. Indeed, blooded stock of all sorts should be purchased of parties that are known as reputable breeders—this is the only reliable security the purchaser can have that the animal purchased will turn out what it is represented to be.

The Southdown sheep has a broad, rather short, though exceedingly neat head; forehead covered with wool, and the face and legs with grey or brown hair. The fleece is rather short, of good felting quality, equal to half-blood Merino, but superior for flannel, &c., and should be solid and compact, and of uniform quality throughout, without projecting hairs.

The carcass should be straight, with well-sprung ribs and broad level back, having wide quarters, deep flank and well packed twist. This being held in higher esteem than any other breed for the production of superior mutton, the full and perfect development of carcass is deemed of the highest importance.

The Hampshire Downs are coarser in form and fleece, with black faces and legs.

The Shropshire Downs are a cross between the Southdowns and long-wools-a large breed, with long coarse wool, in form resembling the Cotswold, with black faces and legs.

In regard to this matter of the color of the faces and the legs, it is remarkable that while the Southdowns, which stand at the head of all the varieties, have, as before observed, brown or grey colors in these parts—their crosses on other breeds will frequently show black faces and legs.

When the object is to keep a small flock for mutton, rams of this variety are found exceedingly profitable to cross on ewes of almost any other breed. But the nearer they go to

pure blood the better the mutton.

At a recent sale of Leicester sheep from the flocks of Lord Polwarth, an English breeder, one ram brought \$850, with one exception the highest price ever paid for a Leicester sheep. The average of the sale was \$185.

OUR COUNTRY ROADS .- Our American roads are bad, and our system of making and repairing them is bad; but the subject is receiving the attention of our people, and when we come to fully realize our inferiority when compared with other nations in this respect, we shall better understand the necessity of a more efficient system. It is a little humiliating to be told by travellers that the common roads of Switzerland, winding around over their mountains, are much superior to the best public roads in this country

We are glad to learn (from the N. E. Farmer,) that the boys of the Massachusetts Agricultural College are being taught the science and practice of road-building. The editor adds: "If the college will send out a class of boys that are competent and willing to devote their time and talent to the improvement of our public highways, we think we can forgive them if they do not all go back and work their fathers' farms."

DRAINING-MANURING.-At a late meeting of the Hampden (Mass.) Club, M. S. Kellogg of Chicopee Falls spoke particularly of farm improvements and his own experiments. Draining of wet land paid. The tile must rest on a firm bottom; a strip of board can be used if necessary. For light soil, clay or muck should be carted on in the winter so as to get the action of the frost and become pulverized. He had carted on 50 loads of clay to the acre at a cost of 50 cents per load or \$25 per acre and it had always produced a good crop of rye the first year; two crops of clover the second, and thereafter was adapted for any crop and especially for the culture of fruit trees. Mr. Kellogg said clay was of more value to sandy lands then sand to clay lands. It had an affinity for fertilizers and retained moisture. By increasing the quality of stock as much as possible, and improving lands, his farm, which twenty years ago was hardly worth the labor expended upon it, had now increased twenty fold in value.

Korticulture.

THE "DOWNING" GOOSEBERRY.—Mr. H. J. Hooker, of Rochester, N. Y., has introduced a new Gooseberry, which is highly spoken of, and from an engraving of a branch of the bush, the fruit appears to be of a remarkably large size, and the foliage is very heavy, which is considered of great value to the fruit, not only in the certainty of maturity, but by shielding it from sun scalding, which some-times injures other sorts. Mr. Hooker says, "I cannot say that I have found the fruit of 'Downing' any great improvement in flavor over the 'Houghton,' but it is twice as large, and the pale green color is preferable, as most of the gooseberry crop is now used for various cooking and canning purposes; it will, I think, be found that its increased size, remarkable vigor and productiveness, good color and certain crop, will place it among the real acquisitions in this fruit. I look upon these new sorts as additions of real merit in themselves, and a strong assurance that from their progeny we may reasonably expect soon to see a list of gooseberries possessing all the good qualities of the foreign sorts, with the added recommendation that they are perfectly adented by nature to our climate. When we have these improved sorts we shall find an extensive use and enlarged market for the fruit now so little valued."

EVERGREENS AMONG PEAR TREES.-Hon. E. H. Hyde, Vice-President of the Connecticut State Board of Agriculture, planted a number of small evergreens in a circular form around some pear trees, simply for ornament, intending to keep them down in the front of a hedge, and to allow the pear trees, "for to appear above them. The plan was neglected after a while-as many such plans are-and the evergreens soon outstripped the dwarfs, and towered up above and nearly encircled them. It came to be noticed after a while that while the pear trees away from the evergreens were irregular bearers of rather inferior fruit, those within the circle were almost invariably prolific, and the fruit was of superior quality. There was no other apsuperior quality. There was no other apparent cause for this result than the influence of the evergreens, hence the inference in favor of protection would seem to be a just

LIMA BEANS.-For the past ten years we have raised them in great abundance-in fact have cooked none other for dry. The first year or so we found difficulty in ripening them, as we picked for the table as fast as they were ready. There are only two points, if observed, will ensure success. The first is to pinch off the top of each vine when they have reached the top of the stake, say 6 feet, and the second is carefully to save the earliest pods for seed. Many writers say that must be planted eye down, etc. We never practice it; we put

the ground in nice order, when it is warm enough, and plant as any other beans, 4 in a hill, and they generally all come. By saving the earliest for seed, we have them nice for the table 3 weeks earlier than at first.—Boston Cul.

To Get Tender Horse-Radish.—An English gardener says:—"It may not be generally known that if leaves or litter be placed on the tops of horse-radish crowns, two feet or so thick, the plants grow through them in the course of the summer, making small white roots the thickness of one's finger, which are as tender as spring radishes, and much to be preferred to the tough, stringy stuff usually supplied with our roast beef."

Vegetable Garden-Work for June.

The hoe and the rake must be kept more active than ever in the contest with the weeds. A sharp steel toothed rake applied early is one of the best instruments for their destruction. By stirring among the growing crops with it, the young weeds are turned up to the heat of the sun as soon as they germinate, and are at once withered and destroyed. The prong hoe is another effective tool, not enough used in gardens. Work with it is easier, better and quicker done than with the old kind.

Do not cut your Asparagus too late, as the crop of next season will suffer for it. A dressing will be of use now of some soluble manure, if well worked in. Beans may still be planted, and those already in must be kept clean. Keep Beets thinned out. The thinnings make good spinach. Plant second crop of Cabbages and Cauliflowers and sow late sorts. Plant Corn every ten days for a succession. Cucumbers, Cantaleupes, Melons and Squash should be thinned out, the hills kept clear of grass and weeds, and the earth drawn up around the stems. Seeds of varieties intended for pickles may be planted toward the end of the month. Egg Plants require frequent hoeing and plenty of liquid manure. Lettuce may be sown in a cool and moist place if attainable. Do not sow much at a time as it soon runs to seed. Onions require frequent working and weeding. Salt and ashes are good top dressings for this crop. Peas may be planted still, but the yield will not be large. Radishes may be sown. Rhubarb should not be allowed to mature its flower stalks. Ruta Bagas may be sown at the end of the month. A good dressing of bone dust or superphosphate will give the crop a push and keep it beyond the reach of the fly. Sweet Potatoes need some attention, so that the vines do not root and thus diminish size and product of main roots. Tomatoes need tieing up to some kind of a trellis or other support. We have found a single stake the simplest, least troublesome and equally effective as any.

The Pairy.

Clear Water for Cows.

The following extract from a communication to the Journal of the Royal Agricultural Society of England, by Mr. X. A. Willard, furnishes an illustration of the importance of securing clean water for milch cows:

"Professor Law, of Cornell University, gets his supply of milk from a "milkman. One day, during the hot weather, he observed a peculiar ropy appearance in the cream which had risen on the milk. He examined it under a powerful microscope, and found it filled with living organisms of a character quite foreign to good milk. He immediately called upon his milkman, to inquire concerning his management of stock and general treatment of milk, with a view of accounting for the There was no fault discovered at the dairy-house, in the milking, or in treatment of the milk; but on looking through the pastures, he found that the cows, for lack of clean, running water, were compelled to slake their thirst for the most part-from a stagnant This water he examined under the microscope, and discovered the same class of organisms as those in the cream. He then took some of the blood from the cows and examined it under the glass, when the same organisms made their appearance. He next obtained a good milk-milk which on examination had no impurities, and into this he put a drop of water from the stagnant pool. In a short space of time the milk developed an infinite number of these living organisms, and became similar in character to the milk obtained from his milkman. 'He examined the cows, and made the usual thermometer tests for determining health and disease in animals. The cows were found to be hot and feverish, thus evidently showing that these organisms, entering the circulation, had affected the health of the animals."

Cows Coming in.—The cows that are to come in this month and next need extra care and attention. They are already heavy and require extra rations to maintain good condition, with strength to bear the tax upon the system incident to calving and the change of secretions from the uterus to the udder. Cows often lose condition and run down at this season, before the farmer is aware of it. What is lost cannot be regained without undue forcing, and the healthy vigor of the system so necessary to a successful season at the dairy cannot be restored after the cow comes in.

The watchful eye of the owner at this time is the best guaranty of success. Nothing can take the place of good care. If the udder becomes very full and inflamed, it should be bathed with warm water, rubbed and manipulated thoroughly, wiped dry and the milk drawn. Timely care in this respect often

saves garget and loss. Heating food, like corn meal, should be avoided. A daily mess of oat meal and wheat bran will be useful, and a liberal ration of roots will keep the system in a healthy state. As the time for calving approaches, the cow should be turned loose in a box, where there is no chance to injure herself or the calf, and be well supplied with bedding. A little judicious assistance at the critical moment is often of vital importance, and is valuable in most cases as saving of the strength of the cow.

After calving, a relaxing but nourishing diet is indispensable, and a chill must be avoided. The water should be warmed. If milk fever sets in, the best remedy is timely bleeding. It must not be delayed, however, or the case will be fatal, if severe. For local inflammation and garget, the best remedies are the preventives already named.—Vt. Record.

The Loultry Nard.

Nesting Place for Turkeys.

From the proceedings of the New York Farmer's Club, we make the extract which gives in detail a method of making nests, that may be of service to some of our readers.

Procure four stakes, each about four feet long, drive them all into the ground about a foot, and lay an old barrel on the tops. Let two stakes be driven about one foot apart, and two others about twenty inches distant. Any barrel will lie on the tops a foot apart. Then drive a nail through the staves down into the top of every stake. One head of the barrel and about half the other head should be allowed to remain in. Let the hoops be driven and nailed, and the best side of the barrel be placed on the top to shed rain. Now put in a generous supply of fine hay, dead grass or swinging tow, which is better than grass, and you will have a nest that a turkey will take possession of before she has commenced laying. In front of the open end of the barrel drive four or five stakes into the ground, about six inches apart, for steps to aid the turkey in ascending to her nest without flying. Narrow strips of board, three or four inches broad, driven into the ground, will be sufficiently wide for steps. Each step should rise about eight inches, one above the other. A turkey is possessed of so much secretiveness that she wishes to go to and leave her nest without making any noise to attract the attention of any person or animal. By having stakes driven into the ground so that she can walk on the tops of them to the open ends of the barrel, no skunk, raccoon, fox or mink will molest her, and no crow or other bird will rob her nest when she is absent before the period of incubation has commenced. Such nests should be made in the corners of fields, or in a clump of bushes. After the barrel is secured on the stakes, let

old pieces of rail be set up around it on every side, except a narrow passage at the entrance. In lieu of rails, use brush, or a few small trees placed against the barrel. When turkeys are allowed "to steal their nests" their eggs are frequently destroyed by nocturnal narauders or by diurnal robbers. We once knew a crow to watch a turkey until she had laid, when he would dart down from the top of a tall tree where he was accustomed to perch, and take her eggs every time one was laid.

THE PIP is occasioned by the forming of a dry, horny scale upon the tongue; the beak becomes yellow at the base; the plumage becomes ruffled; the bird mopes and pines; the appetite gradually declines to extinction—and at length it dies, completely worn out by fever and starvation. Give the bird, three times a day, for a week or two, two or three grains of black pepper in fresh butter, which will effect a cure.

One of our exchanges says: The introduction of the pure bronze turkey has added at least three pounds, in some instances five pounds per head to the average stock of the county. Last fall a gentleman living near me weighed his young gobblers in the month of December, near Christmas, and they averaged twenty-three pounds each, an extra lot. Years ago fifteen to sixteen pounds at the same season was a full weight.

It is recommended to chicken raisers to raise some broom corn seed and let the fowls have free access to it. It is a healthy and fattening feed for them.

PROFITABLE POULTRY.—Pardon K. Ball of Wesport Point, states that his income from 16 hens, for one year, was \$106; Pardon Davis of the same place raised from 2 geese and gander, 57 goslings in a year.

An intelligent English farmer, writing to the Mark Lane Express, states his experience with bone dust and superphosphate made from bones. He believes bone to be the "cream of cream" as manure. On pasture land in Cheshire, where he lived seven years, he found it indispensable. In Wiltshire he found it developed the best grasses and produced a superior herbage; it produced the best roots, and on the wheat crop, in the shape of superphosphate, it secured a good stand. He used \$2,500 worth of it, and believes it to be the best worth a farmer's attention of any outside manure. He found on clay lands, impregnated with oxyde of iron, that until the land had been limed, the bone had no effect, but as soon as lime was applied bone was used with success. Finally on experimenting with it on sandy soil, he found it perfectly useless, and even in quantities of 700 pounds per acre applied to old pastures or young grass lands it had no perceptible effect during many years.

The American Farmer

RURAL REGISTER.

BY SAML. SANDS & SON,

No. 9 North street, near Baltimore street, Baltimore, Md. (sign of the Golden Plow.)

SAML. SANDS, WM. B. SANDS, Editors and Proprietors.

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Advertisements should reach us by the 20th of the month, to secure insertion in the succeeding issue.

BALTIMORE, MD., JUNE 1, 1873.

THE LETTERS OF "LABORER."—These papers will be found by the attentive reader to be a complete mannual of vine culture and wine making. They are from the pen of a practical gentleman who is giving the results of his own experience, every regard being had to economical processes. Great interest prevails at present on the subject of these essays, and we have full faith that the day is not far distant when the American people will, in favor of home-grown wines, dispense with the enormous outlays for European products, of which by far the greater portion are manipulated from very different materials than the pure juice of the grape.

DEFERRED—Several communications for which we cannot find room in this month's No.; among them, one from a lady of W. Va., who also promises us some further contributions on flowers and rural life, and one from W. H., of Calvert Co., Md. In postponing the latter we do ourselves an injustice, since the writer in suggesting remedies for some of the evils of the day, recommends, as an efficient one, the wider dissemination among the people of the "The American Furmer" and kindred journals.

Mr. Newton's Communication in this No. will command universal attention. He begins in it to more fully develope his views upon the monetary questions upon which he writes. His promise to show in his next letter that the question asked by him in these pages just eighteen months ago, "What shall we do?" has been satisfactorily answered, will, we believe, produce a more than usual interest for the receipt of the next issue of the Farmer by its numerous readers. The attempt to solve this problem has engaged the efforts of many of our correspondents, and on another page one of them, Mr. Gilmer, seems to believe that he, in his new departure, has hit the mark.

Mr. Newton, in his closing paragraph, seems to have misapprehended the remark made by us in our last, where the name of Alexander Hamilton was mentioned. It was not our intention to presume to say what position that statesman would have taken on the questions of to-day, but our reference was only to the fact that from the time when his name was so prominent in discussions of American finance, the views of the leading men of the country have been widely and sometimes strangely at variance.

Our venerable correspondent, in a private note to the editors in reply to inquiries as to his health, gives utterence to the following noble and philanthropic sentiments:

"I regain my strength slowly, but I hope surely. My disease seems to be chiefly that malady which the faculty classes among the the incurable, age. And yet I enjoy life as much as younger men. I have not had an hour of gloom during my whole sickness, and I do not know that I could select any period of equal extent out of my truly happy life that has been more happy than the last eight months My friends may possibly have thought, from my frequent complainings in my writings, that I have been lamenting the loss of my fortune Not at all. My effort has been to awaken our people from their slumbers, and by presenting the truth, which has been carefully kept out of sight by the designing, and not seen at all by the ignorant, to convince them of the necessity of action. I hope my labors have not been entirely in With the blessing of God, I shall convain. tinue them with the zeal and disinterestedness of Martin Luther, having enlisted for life or the war.

"I am not yet weary of the world, though I trust ready to go when it shall please my Heavenly Father to call me. I shall, however, continue to serve my fellow men faithfully to the close. In my estimation there cannot be a more melancholy object than an

old man who permits his faculties to rust out, folding his arms in indifference, and taking no interest in the welfare of his fellow beings or of posterity, and who becomes disgusted with the world because in his selfishness he has cracked the nut, eaten the kernel, and has nothing left but the empty shells. This is neither my philosophy nor my religion."

Our Advertisers.

The subject of Life Insurance, of late years, has come to be of great interest, and to agriculturists no less than to men of other professions. In this connection the advertisement of the Washington Life Insurance Co., of N. Y. is worthy of attention. This company was organized some 14 years ago, and claims to possess assets to the amount of \$4,000,000, over 90 per cent. of which is invested in interest bearing securities readily convertible into cash. Its management is recommended to us as economical, judicious and successful.

The manufacturers of Silver Ware, Fine Jewelry, Watches, &c., are represented in our advertising supplement by Messrs. A. E. Warner, Larmour & Uo. and Wm. Holmes. The latter includes in his business Silver and Gold plating, and all of the houses named are such as to be unreservedly commended to the patrons of the Farmer for their high standing.

In house furnishing goods, China, Glass and plated Ware, the firm of Sam'l Child & Co. is the largest house in this city, and the beauty, variety and extent of their stock is probably seldom equalled in this country. Their store is worth a visit from all who are admirers of the beautiful. This house makes a specialty of filling orders for the country.

Our readers who are building and need supplies of Lumber, Mill Work, Doors, Sashes, Blinds, &c., will find a large assortment at the yards of Messrs. V. O Eareckson and Burns & Sloan, whose advertisements will be found on another page.

FRUIT.—We hear a very general complaint of the damage done to the fruit by the heavy frost which occurred in April, but we think the Peaches have suffered more than any other kinds. In the districts, however, whence the supplies of this delicious fruit are furnished for the markets, the quantity will still be very great, as new orchards are springing up in every direction, and though the supply may be diminished, the increased prices will more than counterbalance the loss sustained from the effects of the season.

THE GRAIN MARKET.-The advices from England give hopes of an improved state for the grain crops, in consequence of the change in the weather. The great amount of the cereals which we have been able to ship from our surplus products to Great Britain and Ireland, has had the effect of keeping the market there well supplied, and alleviated the distress which at one time so seriously threatened the people of England and Ireland, the former from the shortness of their wheat crop, and the latter from the deficiency in that of their potatoes from disease. The demand still continues undiminished for all the grain we can get into their markets, for the last estimates we have seen from a reliable source, places the figures at upwards of 50,000,000 bushels as the quantity required before a new crop comes in, and the bulk of this amount is looked for from the U. States, as the supply from the usual European sources is now admitted to be far below former calculations. We have still a large amount of grain on hand, and although the quantity at the principal shipping points is decidedly less than at this time last year, the prices now ranging will bring it into market, notwithstanding the heavy freights, to which is attributed the cause operating to prevent farmers and small dealers at the West from sending their stocks to the seaboard. Wheat at this time (May 15) is quoted on our Exchange at \$2, Rye \$1, and Corn 65 cts. per bushel. The present appearance of the wheat fields does not indicate a very heavy crop this year-and the backwardness of the season (being at least twelve days later than usual) gives no certainty of an extraordinary corn crop like that which we had last year. The frost, too, which was experienced at the South in April, not only affected the cotton and the fruit, but also the tender corn which had been planted-and in many cases where the corn was gotten in, the cold weather has prevented its germination. and re-planting to a very great extent has been the consequence.

POULTRY SOCIETY.—A society for the encouragement of poultry breeding, in this vicinity, has been formed, and W. S. G. Baker, Esq., elected president, with a list of other officers. An association of this kind can be made a success, if properly managed, and the election of Mr. B. as its first president, will no doubt secure such a result.

STOCK FOR THE SOUTH .- We are almost daily receiving letters from subscribers at the South, requesting us to look out for blooded stock for them, preparatory to their ordering in the fall. In reply, we would say, that through our Agency, all the most approved breeds can be obtained, and probably better from this locality than any other. Our present object, however, is specially to answer the question of a correspondent in Keachi, La., and in so doing the information will be useful to others in the same and adjacent states. He asks if stock bought here can be sent direct from this port to New Orleans, or if it will be necessary to ship by the way of New York. In reply we would inform our friends in the Southwest, that we have now a regular line of steamers between Baltimore and New Orleans, and anything required by them can be forwarded direct.

Our correspondent orders a bull and two heifers of the Alderney breed—he says, "I have a nice stock of cattle for this region; they are crossed with the Devon, and show the blood plainly in their beautiful color and form—but I wish to go into raising fancy stock, for dairy purposes, obtaining fancy prices, and making money easier than by raising cotton." We will be happy to fill the order, and, as he directs, get the herd-book animals he requires, which will astonish and charm the natives of his parish—but we question whether he will make more money off of live stock, in his region, than he could from cotton or sugar.

Cotton.-The crop of Mr. Tittle, noticed elsewhere, was bedded in the usual way, and 6 acres planted, commencing April 29th, and 3 acres 15th of May; the beds opened with a gofer, and covered with a board; cultivated with a shovel and sweep, hoed three times and ploughed five. The Rural Alabamian very forcibly remarks, that there are certain indispensable requisites to success in growing cotton-if thorough preparation of the soil before planting has been attended to, then a good stand is to be secured as early as possible; afterward the utmost effort is to be made to keep out the grass. Don't wait for the grass to get hold, but, by frequent ploughing and hoeing, prevent it from getting a start; bearing in mind, too, that the oftener you stir the soil, the better will it be for the crop. Do not stop for dry weather, but rather, the dryer the weather the more frequent should be the workings. The great secret of success in cotton culture is in frequent stirring of the soil during the growth of the crop. Keep the plough, cultivator or hoe always in motion. Before the second ploughing, a liberal application of some good concentrated fertilizer for the use of the lateral roots, will greatly increase the product.

Waste of Fertilizers.—In the able report of Prof. Goessman of the Mass. Agr. College, on Fertilizers, he says that "experiments have proved that each fertilizing agent has its particular limit in promoting growth, and that a large accumulation of any one of them in the soil is, if not directly hurtful, at least bad economy," and gives the following evidence of the position he assumes—he says:

"Stockhardt, in experimenting with guano on potatoes, noticed that, in using 163 lbs. of guano per acre, each pound of that fertilizer produced an increase of 25.2 pounds of potatoes; in using 340 lbs., but 12.2 pounds; in case of 520 pounds, but 2.5 pounds; and in case of 695 pounds, but 1.75 pounds' increase of potatoes were obtained. Mr. Lawes' experiments with ammonia compounds, &c., gave similar results."

We will hereafter transfer to our pages liberal portions of Prof. G.'s report. In the meantime we would remark, that he gives the analysis of samples of five of the best known manufactured superphosphates in the state. The valuation of these articles was made in conformity with the prices of late recognized by dealers and consumers in that vicinitythese prices are, 16.25 cts. per pound of soluble phosphoric acid; 13.2 cts. for every pound of reduced phosphoric acid; 30 cts. for each pound of nitrogen, and 8 cts. for each pound of potassa. We annex his analysis and estimated value of samples of Guanape Island Guano, but in this instance his estimate of the value of phosphoric acid is but 12.64 cts. per lb., though no reason is given for fixing this price, instead of those elsewhere given:

Valuation per ton of 2000 pounds.

238.80 lbs. phos. acid (at 12.64 cts. pr lb.) \$30.18 194.00 " nitrogen (235.60 ammonia). 58.20 40.40 " potassa.... 3.23

Northern Neck of Virginia.

Our readers will remember that we took occasion, some months ago, to call attention to the organized effort being made in the counties of Virginia situated between the Potomac and Rappahannock rivers, and constituting the peninsula known as the Northern Neck, to attract settlers to that section by a systematic mode of disseminating information as to the character of the lands, the climate, prices of estates offered for sale, productions adapted to the soil, cost of labor, facilities of market, state of society, &c. By means of a well written pamphlet, which has been widely distributed not only in different portions of this country but also abroad, and by the persistent energy of an agent duly appointed and commissioned by the Immigration Society, under whose auspices the movement referred to was inaugurated, considerable inquiry has been awakened as to the advantages offered by this portion of Virginia, and numerous settlers from abroad have already taken up their abode in the several counties comprised within the scope of operations of the Society.

A large number of intending settlers, or land purchasers, have visited the country from the Northern and Northwestern States, from England, and from Denmark and Sweden, and a number have already purchased farms and begun operations, the class of settlers being, as a rule, well informed, well-to-do farmers, accustomed to an agricultural life, industrious and economical, and with capital in hand necessary for the conduct of their business.

This is particularly true of the Scandinavians, whether direct from their native countries or transferred from the Northwest, as some have been, who have failed to find attractions sufficient to retain them in that region of fertile land but long enduring frost. A large movement of these people in this direction is soon confidently expected, some having already, indeed, begun to arrive. Col. Jno. M. Brockenbrough, of Warsaw, Richmond co., who is the president of the society, and with whom we recently had the pleasure of passing several days at his handsome estate on the Rappahannock, informs us that the pamphlet of his society had been translated and published in full in several of the most prominent journals of Denmark. The com-

missioner of the society, Rev. C. L. Clausen, is himself a Dane, but long a resident of one of our northwestern States, which he left on account of the severity of the climate. A gentleman of respectability and of influence, not only in his native land, but in the section where he formerly resided, he is enabled to operate very advantageously in forwarding the work of this association, which is fortunate in having secured his services.

We look forward with much interest to the future operations of this society, confident that they cannot fail to achieve no inconsiderable good for the people of the country embraced in its field of work.

The results of such an enterprise are not to be expected in a month, or a year; plans must be well considered, fully matured, and then given opportunity and time to become operative. Especially is this necessary in a work looking for the settlement of new citizens in any community, involving as it does ample consideration, patient investigation, the breaking up of old and strong ties, and, frequently, long journeys.

Looking from a disinterested stand-point at the success achieved and and promised of this new society, we think it has much to encourage its pushing forward, and that there is also promise enough in its experiment to recommend similar organizations to the public-spirited and energetic citizens of other districts.

COMPLIMENTARY.—From the author of a most valuable work, the "Southern Apple and Peach Culturist," Mr. Fitz, whose communication will be found on another page, we received in a note accompanying it the following compliment to our "Farmer:" "The continued favor and patronage of the farmers has enabled you to furnish them the best journal on agriculture published anywhere in this country."

Mr. Joyner, a farmer of Pitt county, N. C., (8th May.) says: "My lucerne, though a week or ten days younger than my clover, is twice the size of it. It is very promising. Our cotton crops are very backward, owing to the late spring and the dry weather. Crops that have been planted three or four weeks are not up yet. In my own case I waited till rain came before I began, and notice to-day that the seeds are sprouting, though planted only a few days. My reaper and mower is at Greenville, but I am waiting for the cultivator.

The Angora goats are getting on finely; they are much more thrifty than the old stock. hope also to soon order some blooded cattle and horses through your agency. What we need down here is more good stock and better pastures, and abundance of grass for hay. I wish you could pay us a visit, and stir us up by your presence as you have done by your grand old American Furmer. We have a perfectly healthy and very beautiful country here, and I wish you could see it." We would be glad to accept of this, with the many other pressing invitations we have lately received, but the Senior finds home is the proper place now for him; our Junior, since the re-establishment of our journal, has generally had to do all the travelling about, but with a house full of little "olive branches," (and the yearly cry is "still they come,") his foot is tied to the "home department" and its necessary duties, so that he cannot as often as is desirable be away. He is now absent, however, in the Northern Neck of Virginia.

Mr. R. Jordan, of Monticello, Ga., says: "The American Farmer is highly esteemed by your subscribers here. I wish every farmer in our county would take it. I shall endeavor to push its circulation." Let all who think as does the writer, follow his good example, and push the circulation of the Furmer.

Mr. Gaines, of Charlotte Co., Va., says:—
"Allow me, before closing, to thank you for your most excellent paper, and express the wish that you may long live to cheer, counsel and advise the 'sons of toil.'"

A subscriber in Anson Co., N. C., whose good lady received one of our premiums for a club, writes us:—"Mrs. J. has received her Beckwith Sewing Machine, and is very much pleased with it. But she is not half so well pleased with that as I am with the fact that she was instrumental in procuring readers for the Farmer, as I am confident its monthly visits will effect a great improvement on the farms where its light shines."

FREIGHTS ON FERTILIZERS.—A correspondent at Statesville, N. C., in remitting us for a club of subscribers, adds: "The Farmer is truly a valuable work, and I am happy to see its large circulation. There is no one number of it but is of itself worth \$1.50 to any man who has any respect for our great occupation, as well as the future prosperity of the country. Last summer, with your kind assistance, I had a war with the transportation companies about lime and plaster, and succeeded in get-

ting a reduction of some \$10, which put the two tons down to \$18. Now, even at \$9 per ton transportation, it puts these two main leading tertilizers out of the reach of farmers. I have been planting corn, sugar and cotton in Florida and Georgia for the last forty years, and have used many kinds of manures, but have discovered long since that the only relia-ble plant food is that we make at home, with the assistance of shell lime and gypsum. Here in North Carolina I can procure them, but at a ruinous cost. The law-making powers, both in Congress and in the State legislatures alike pay no interest, I should say, no attention, to the prosperity of the nation and states through tillage, &c. Why should not Congress pass a statute compelling all transportation companies to carry, free of charge, all fertilizers, as well as all machinery appertaining to til-Without lime I know not how to farm in this section. The cost of shell lime in Baltimore is \$6; transportation to Statesville \$9; equal to \$15 per ton. The above price places lime out of the reach of farmers. The cheapest and best compost I can make here is 4 bushels of muck to 1 bushel of shell lime.

Our correspondent thinks he has on his farm a rich and inexhaustible vegetable deposit of muck, but without the lime it cannot be make half so valuable as with its use. He says that a large portion of the soil in his vicinity is mica, (isinglass,) but without a solvent he is not able to set free the potash contained therein. He is making some experiments with it, and promises to report the result through the Farmer.

Formerly it was the case that all transportation lines were required by law, or perhaps were prompted by a sense of self-interest, to make a discrimination in favor of the manures then used, which were principally lime and plaster, knowing that the greater the use on their lands of these well known fertilizers by the farmers, the larger was the increase of the products thereof, and the greater the yield of toll to themselves in getting the produce to market; but now this discrimination does not exist to an extent which will enable the farmer to purchase fertilizers like those required by our correspondent, because the transportation is greater than the original cost. But whilst a more equitable and liberal spirit should be manifested by our transportation companies, because of the general public good involved therein, (and in chartering new companies the legislature should make provision in this direction,) yet still our correspondent is going too far in the opposite direction when he proposes that these articles should be carried free. Fair play is a jewel.

Bone Dust and South Carolina Phosphates.

A planter at Marion C. H., South Carolina, writes as follows:

"The package of corn has been received, for which I am very much obliged. I plant about 800 acres in corn and cotton—a little more than two-thirds in the latter, and it is very important for me to plant the best seed I can get. I have put out this spring near 70 tons of commercial fertilizers. I find that Peruvian guano mixed with our Charleston phosphates pays much better than either used alone. I am using this year some of the manures manufactured in Baltimore. I am anxious to ascertain the relative value of the different bone manures used, and especially the comparative value of the fresh bones, and of those found in the neighborhood of Charleston. I will get you to buy me next winter some of the best brands, so that I may test them. I wish not only to improve my crops now, but permanently to improve my land, which produces 50 per cent. now more than it did five years ago. I wrote you last fall about some milch cows, and wished to know if we could get several full-blooded cows of different breeds, and I wanted myself an Ayrshire cow. On the plantations it is now next to impossible to have fancy stock attended to. I see my friend John Witherspoon has been getting some Jerseys from you. He is engaged in no other business but planting, and will have them properly attended to."

We are glad to have had our attention called to the subject of the comparative value of fresh bones and the South Carolina phosphates. The latter, by analysis well tested, contain a larger amount of phosphates than the fresh bones, but there is a considerable variation in this respect in some of the lots obtained from the South Carolina deposits. The general experience is, that unless the latter are made into superphosphate, the result will be found to be that they are of but little value. We have seen fields on which they have been applied, and they were of no apparent value to the growing crop, whilst on adjoining fields, where they had been dissolved with oil of vitriol, the effect was admirable, and we think this will be found to be the case generally with all the phosphatic minerals. Such is not the effect in the use of fresh bones, and our correspondent has found that the admixture of the South Carolina phosphates with Peruvian guano was decidedly more efficacious than either when used alone. The bone dust we know from our own experience, and the testimonials of vast numbers who have tried it, will, if not too coarse, not only give a good return for the first crop

to which it is applied, but will last for years. If made into a superphosphate it will probably tell better on the first crop, but will not be so enduring. We shall hereafter dilate upon this subject in time for the wheat crop. But for the present we will say, that we have little doubt that the application of 100 lbs. Peruruvian guano combined with 400 lbs. bone dust, (or in that proportion,) will be found to be the cheapest and most effectual manure for a wheat crop that can be applied, answering for the present crop and the permanent improvement of the land. This is the plan adopted by many of the best English farmers, with often the excellent addition of a little salt.

In a letter just published, addressed to an officer of the Massachusetts Society for Promotion of Agriculture, Mr. Lawes, of Rothhampstead, Eng., the distinguished experimentalist in and manufacturer of artificial manures, says, in speaking of the Charleston phosphates, we "have one of the best phosphates which the world produces, but also one which can yield a commercial superphosphate cheaper than any other."

To FRUIT GROWERS.—The Oyster and Fruit Packers' Board of Trade, of Baltimore, at a meeting held 12th ult., resolved that the standard bushel for Peaches shall be a box 9 inches deep, 14 in. wide, and 22½ in. long, in the clear, with ½ inch partition—that the standard half bushel for Tomatoes shall be a basket 10 inches deep, 10½ inches across the bottom, and 15 inches across the top—and that the barrel for measuring Peas, shall hold not less than 2½ standard bushels.

A PROLIFIC Cow.—Mr. Thos. Hartly, of Baltimore Co., Md., has a common or native cow, now about five years old, which has within three years produced seven living calves. On April 18th, 1871, she dropped two calves, of fine size and vigor; April 20, 1872, she gave birth to three, and on the 8th of April, of this year, she dropped two more, and also a body which seemed to be a malformed or imperfect fætus. Of these seven calves, all lived except one. The cow is reported as a very great milker.

FRUIT DRYER.—To several inquiries as to the makers of this apparatus, which has been alluded to and once figured in our pages, we answer that the address of the manufacturers is: "American Drier Co., Loudon, Franklin Co., Pa."

FARM PROFITS.—A friend of the Farmer, who works a farm of about 80 acres in this state, sends us a statement of his expenditures and receipts for one year, as bearing upon the question whether farming pays:

From May 1st, 1872, to April 30th, 1873.

FARM—DR.	
3 tons bone dust for wheat at \$40\$120	00
3 carboys oil of vitriol 12	75
½ ton plaster 5	25
Manures for wheat	00
Seed wheat 42	00
Hands 194	77
Threshing 20	00
Threshers 10	00
Wheelwright's bill 20	00
Blacksmith's bill 32	50
Incidentals 40	00
Harvesting 85	00
Expense of spring crops '73 70	00
	-

makerne or abreed crobs tottititi		00
	\$652	27
FARM-CR.	•	
Fruit	\$ 77	11
225 bushels wheat at \$2	450	
3 loads hay, about 14 tons each		80
2 stacks hay, sold on the place		00
Straw sold	17	
Oat and wheat chaff	9	00
Road money		
Extra hauling with team		
Rent of tenant house	25	
Part pay of horse sold	25	
Butter sold, so far as known	133	
Eggs, estimated		
Vinegar, on hand (9 bbls.) say	50	

Our correspondent says: "We consider last year a poor year. My hoped-for potato crop of 400 bushels turned out about 50, and the 35 tons of hay, 10 or 12. I have only saved my hay by feeding the horses on straw and the cows on fodder, but this showing encourages me to pick the flint and try again. Bacon, 1512 lbs.; wheat, 35 bushels; corn, 20 bushels, and poultry, butter and eggs, used in the family, I do not put down." He adds: "I think the farm is worth \$300 more than it was this time last year—that is, has improved that much."

REAPERS AND MOWERS.—In our last we gave a list of the manufacturers and venders of agricultural implements and machinery whose advertisements are to be found in our pages, to which we now add L. H. Lee & Bro., of this city, who ask the attention of farmers to their "Champion" Reaper and Mower, which they claim has become the most popular machine in the market. It is an important matter when a costly piece of machinery is to be bought, that the expenditure should

be judicious, since farmers now-a-days have not often full enough purses to run any risk of getting so important an article as a reaper and mower that will not prove effective; therefore, in looking around and making comparisons, we advise a visit to the Messrs. Lee, to examine their "Champion."

The house of Messrs. Geo. Page & Co. was last month inadvertently omitted from our list. This firm is known all over the land for the excellence of their machinery, their portable saw mills and steam engines having been of great importance to the country, and made the fortunes of many men who have invested in their purchase.

Harvesting.

Engage the men a year before you want them; when you pay them off at the close of the harvest of one year select and contract with the men for the next. See the hands again a month or six weeks before you want them; fix the price, if not done before; and get reliable, sober men, if you can, and keep whiskey out of the field. Get them for a day or two before you expect to want them, and if possible for the whole time of harvest, paying them so much per day and filling in the odd times with other work. Hire one man in five more than you expect to want. Begin the first day you can, and push it rather than have it push you.

If you have a good man living with you, make him foreman, if not, select a good, steady cutter, not too fast—don't cut yourself, lest your pocket suffer; if your force is small and you think it best, take the rear and

shock

If working more than 6 or 10 hands, you had better look on; yet stand by ready to take hold here or there as you think best; if you know how, let the men see that you can cut, rake or bind and shock with the best of them, and, if you don't know how, learn!

A man broke the mower a few days since and we were without it for a week. We had to try the scythes, one man losing more hay than his work was worth, was changed to the rake, and I took his place. I like the ring of the scythe; and when the mower breaks, are all hands to wait? It is true that the old mower is becoming a curiosity, as is the man that cuts a swath.

Keep the best tools, and a scythe and cra-

dle extra in case of accidents.

Treat the men kindly and as men, and even take a joke now and then if respectfully given; receive their suggestions in regard to the work, if properly made by men of judgment or experience—even a seeming fool may see what you have overlooked or from want of experience do not know.

Give the men at least one luncheon; we have two—at 10 and 5 o'clock—let it be plain, substantial, meat and bread, or bread and milk.

Try to keep cool and don't let the press of work, mistakes, or accidents prevent the habit of self-control you should possess, and the taking of things by the easy, if not the soft end. An old writer said in the Farmer years since, the way to manage others is to control yourself. Above all, don't drink or swear!

If using machinery, examine it before putting it away, examine it again about the first of January, and try it about the first of May; keep on hand in duplicate those parts liable to break, and three or four extra knives and rods, and bolts, in case of accident; don't run a worn-out machine if you can help it. A friend said his machine cost him 75 cents for repairs in seven years, and that the secret was a monkey wrench and to keep the bolts tight; don't trust a mere rattle trap!

If the hands engaged fail to come, get others as soon as you can, and pay them two prices rather than have the crops suffer; if they are exorbitant or unjust, pay them and do not hire them again if you can help it!

ONE WHO ASPIRES TO BE A FARMER.

[The above sensible suggestions from a practical and excellent farmer, were written some months ago, but their publication was deferred till the approach of harvest.—Eds. A. F.]

Farmers' Convention in New York.

A Convention was held in N. York city on 7th of May, to consider the best means to be devised to secure cheap transportation for produce and passengers, the universal complaint being made that the leading railroad lines of the country are controling the transportation solely to the promotion of their own interests, and at the expense of the rights and interests of the producers and the general public. Delegates from a number of the states were present, and a permanent organization effected by the election of the Hon. Josiah Quincy, of Boston, as President, and a Vice-President from each state.

Mr. Quincy on taking the chair, addressed the Convention, and said he appreciated the great benefits of the railroads, but was aware of their danger to the people. The great granaries of Illinois held enough to supply the East with food, but it depends upon one or two men to say what shall be paid for that food when delivered in Eastern cities. He thought something must be done to take this out of the hands of a few men. It was a matter that interested deeply the whole country, and should not be controlled by very few, and the object of the association was to counteract this great evil. Railroads have the power to bribe Legislatures, and will continue to control the laws until the people shall have come together and assert their rights. The rights

of railroad shareholders are not to be infringed upon, but the paramount rights of the whole people to cheap transportation must be asserted and secured.

The remarks of the President, together with the report of the committee on resolutions, which was adopted, will give a bird's eye view of the objects arrived at. The committee de-

"That it is the duty of the hour and the mission of this association to obtain from Congress and the different State Legislatures such legislation as may be necessary to control and limit by law, within proper constitutional and legitimate limits, the rates and charges of existing lines of transportation, to increase, where practicable, the capacity of our present water ways, and to add such new avenues, both water and rail, as our immensely increased internal commerce demands, so that the producer may be jointly rewarded for his honest toil, the consumer have cheap products, and our almost limitless surplus find foreign markets at rates to compete with the world."

Strong remonstrances are added against "certain leading railroad corporations of the country."

"That have proved themselves practically monopolies, and become the tools of avaricious and unscrupulous capitalists, to be used to plunder the public, enrich themselves and impoverish the country through which they run.

"That many of the railroad corporations have not only disregarded public convenience and prosperity, but have oppressed the citizen, bribed our Legislatures and defied our executives and judges, and stand to-day the most menacing danger to American liberty and to republican government.

"That the present system of railway management having failed to meet the just expectations and demands of the long-suffering people, must be radically reformed and controlled by the strong hand of the law, both State and National, and railway corporations compelled to perform their proper functions as servants and not masters of the people."

And they call on the people everywhere, to form auxiliary associations to aid in accomplishing the object in view, and "to exclude from the halls of legislation, from executive offices and from the bench, all such railway officials, railway attorneys or other hizelings as prostitute public office to the base uses of private gains."

The Convention then adjourned to meet in Washington city in January, 1874, at the call of the Executive Committee.

SALE OF SHORT-HORMS.—We call attention to the sale of Short-Horn Cattle, the property of the late James Gowen, of Mount Airy, Philadelphia, advertised on another page.

The florist.

Floriculture, &c .- June, 1873.

By W. D. BRACKENRIDGE, Florist and Nurseryman, Govanstown, Baltimore county, Md.

The Green-House.

A good effect is readily produced by introducing groups of mixed plants in pots from the green-house at points where walks join or cross each other, or in such other places as appear naked and require tinting up during the summer months. Sand, saw-dust and stone coal ashes are all of them good in forming a bed in which to plunge the pots. Acacias, Diosmas, Metrosideros and Eucalyptus are the kind of plants suitable for this purpose, while others, as Camellias, which have large smooth leaves, covet a partial shade while out in the open air.

One cannot but admire the taste exhibited and labor bestowed by the great masses of people possessing property on the Continent of Europe, where every conceivable device is resorted to in preserving during the winter their pet Oleanders, Oranges, Jasmines, Eugenias, Myrtles, Russelias and Sweetbays, which they grow in tubs, fancy vases, or pots. With these the terrace and lawns are adorned, while at the cottage door and flower parterre they are set out as the garden gods of the proprietor. In our own land we see the same taste taking fast hold of the people, who thus add to domestic happiness through Flora's

refining process.

Some people prefer to have their conserva-tories adorned during the summer months with only one or two genera of plants, such as Caladiums or Achimenes, while others select a mixed assortment of such things as Begonias, Gesnerias, Tideas, Gloxineas, Achimenes, and Caladiums. Now the effect produced by all these, when well grown, and at the same time intermingled with a goodly sprinkling of graceful Ferns, affords more satisfaction, because a more artistic arrangement can be made, and moreover, the eye is gladdened by a greater variety of forms. In speaking of forms in plants themselves, we would remind our readers that among Orchids, or Air plants, in their flowers, a still greater variety in colors and singularity of forms present themselves, some of them resembling doves, butterflies, bees and spiders, and the singular names by which some of these lovely plants are known in South America are not deemed proper for a Chris-tian to repeat. People of taste and means are beginning in this country to make collections of this lovely tribe, but unfortunately their cultivation will never become universal, as they require more care than people in general are willing to bestow on such objects, therefore the Rose, Geranium and Heliotrope must still hold the high place they have attained in public estimation. The principal work to be performed under glass at this season will consist in tying up creepers, shifting into larger pots any young growing plants that may require it, not neglecting to use the syringe freely, so as to keep up a humid atmosphere and hold insects in subjection, but remember that delicate flowers are often injured by receiving too much water over head.

Pleasure Grounds and Flower Garden.

The amount of rain which fell last month has no doubt, in many instances, delayed the preparation of ground for planting, but still we deem the present month a good one for the removal of Evergreens. We never plant out Dahlias before the first of June, and they will even flower well if put in towards the end of the month, always observing, that all plants set out late, or that have not taken well with the ground, should be mulched, and receive frequent applications of liquid manure, and when this latter cannot be attended to, then a good supply of well rotted cow dung should be incorporated with the soil before planting.

planting.

Keep the grass on the lawn short by frequent mowings, it will thus better withstand the severe droughts of July and August. Trim hedges of all kinds during this month, cutting them into a conical shape or figure like the letter A; by this means you will have a hedge close and well furnished with twigs

down to the ground.

So soon as Spiræas, Wigelias and Deutzias have finished flowering, cut back the old shoots, so as to insure strong wood for next year's blooming. Should the rose slug attack the rose bushes, then dust them with slaked lime, cutting off with a pair of shears the decayed flowers, thus making the bushes look neat and clean; it also causes fresh shoots to start for future blooms.

Keep Chrysanthemums in pots, intended for fall decoration of the conservatory, in an open situation, shifting into larger pots and pinching the tops back frequently so as to secure bushy plants, giving them a supply of liquid manure once or twice every week.

W. D. B.

ROSES.—An experienced amateur, long devoted to rose culture, gives us his estimate of the best varieties, as follows:

Best six ever-blooming Roses for general use.—
1. Giant of Battles, crimson. 2. General Jacquimenot, scarlet crimson. 3. Indica Alba, white daily. 4. Gloire de Dijon, yellow, copper centre. 5. Appoline, bright rose. 6. George Peabody, purplish crimson. These are all fine blooming roses, and hardy here, [Balto. co., Md.,] which is a great thing for standards. There are, however, numerous others equally as fine, which other people would designate as their favorites.

Best three Roses for circular beds for permanent effect and continuous bloom.—1. Safrano, (Tea.) apricot color. 2. Hermoso, (Bourbon.) pale pink. 3. Washington, (Noisette,) white. These are fine blooming roses, but those who

like darker colors would prefer Lord Raglan, dark crimson, but not a free bloomer: Charles Martel, another superb crimson, and Cardinal

Patrizzi, very dark crimson, good bloomer.

Two varieties for a Rose hedge.—1. Herbemont Cluster, bears a profusion of white clusters, and blooms till December. 2. Appoline, a most lovely fall rose, growing in good ground from 10 to 15 feet, and glorious from September to November. It blooms profusely during the summer, but as the fall advances its color is of the most vivid pink.

The Fireside.

Things That Never Die.

The pure, the bright, the beautiful, That stirred our hearts in youth; The impulse to a wordless prayer, The dreams of love and truth, The dreams of love and train,
The longing after something lost,
The spirit's yearning cry,
The strivings after better hopes—
These things can never die.

The timid hand stretched forth to aid A brother in his need, The kindly word in grief's dark hour, That proves a friend indeed,— The plea for mercy, softly breathed, When justice threatened high, The sorrow of a contrite heart These things shall never die.

The memory of a clasping hand, The pressure of a kiss, And all the trifles sweet and frail, That make up life's first bliss; That make up nice ages to lise,
If with a firm, unchanging faith,
And holy trust and high,
Those hands have clasped and lips have met,
These things shall never die.

The cruel and the bitter word That wounded as it fell;
The chilling want of sympathy
We feel but never tell; The hard repulse that chills the heart Whose hopes were bounding high, in an unfading record kept— These things shall never die.

Let nothing pass, for every hand Must find some work to do; Must find some work to do:
Lose not a chance to waken love,
Be firm, and just, and true.
So shall a light that cannot fade
Beam on thee from on high,
And angel voices say to thee,
These things shall never die.

—All the Year Round,

Christian Vitality.

[Continued from our last.]

There are numerous forms of sanctified affliction by which God's spiritual trees are watered, trained and nurtured before they can be made ready for transplanting in the garden of the Lord, but among them all there is no form of affliction which gives us such an impression of the vanity of the world as the death of those bound to us by near and ten-der ties. To this form of affliction the writer is not a stranger. He, in common with God's spiritual trees, has realized its purifying influ-

ence, as blow after blow fell fast and heavy upon his heart, already crushed and bleeding, when human sympathy and comfort were utterly unavailing. Ah! poets may sing of utterly unavailing. Ah! poets may sing of the vanity of all sublunary things; their strains may be pensive and touching; philosophy may speculate sagely on the same theme, but, indeed, the quivering wires of no harp, though its strings were tuned to notes of unmingled woe; the melancholy moralizing of no philosopher, however gifted or inspired by experimental grief, can give us such impressions of the vanity of earth as the death even of a little child, whose pattering footsteps and merry laughter had been the sweetest music of our house; whose sunny smile was its light, and whose presence filled all of its apartments with gladness. But alas! now the empty cot-the vacant chair at the tablethe clothes without an owner-all these make the heart empty and the world a blank. The little toys and playthings, these must now be put away; not destroyed, but carefully deposited in some place from which we may occasionally take them, though our tears will flow too fast to inspect them long or narrowly. Oh! a little grave throws a shadow so wide and long that it casts a gloom over all the earth. Scenes that once pleased, please no more. Society, and all the face of nature wear a new aspect. "Vanity of vanities," is written on all we behold, and in the conviction that "Love and hope, and beauty's bloom, are blossoms gathered for the tomb," we are taught, as we never learned the lesson before, that "there's nothing true but heaven." This is the way the Great Dresser of the vineyard prunes his spiritual trees, in order that they may grow thereby; "first the blade, then the ear, after that the full corn in the ear." Our souls are represented as spiritual orchards. They need weeding and cleansing of all sin, that they may grow and ripen for eternity. It is only with the eye of faith we can view "Death, the Reaper," not content with cutting down the ripe and bearded grain of the field, but looking through the garden for the sweetest and most fragrant flowers, we can

"He gazed on the flowers with tearful eyes, He kissed their drooping leaves; It was for the Lord of Paradise He bound them in his sheaves. Oh! not in cruelty, not in wrath, The Reaper came that day; 'Twas an angel visited the green earth, And took the flowers away."

And as we chant these lines they impart consolation in our sorrows, strength in our conflicts, and some delightful preludes of the bliss and glory which await us beyond the veil of mortality. To finite minds clouds and darkness may now hang in terrific folds, like the drapery of death, around the throne, but behind it we are assured repose justice, love and mercy. There is a need be in it all,

"God moves in a mysterious way, His wonders to perform; He plants his footsteps in the sea, And rides upon the storm."

"Blind unbelief is sure to err, And scan his works in vain; God is his own interpreter, And He will make it plain."

For, adds the Apostle, " Beloved, now are we the sons of God, and it doth not yet appear what we shall be, but we know that when he shall appear we shall be like him, for we shall see him as he is." To be with Christ, our Saviour, and to behold his glory will be the consummation of bliss. Gloom and despondency may now sometimes settle around our path, as clouds around the setting sun, but only to be dissipated in the bright morning of the resurrection. When we review the bright catalogue of saints, "who, being dead, yet speak," as mentioned by the Apostle in the eleventh chapter of his epistle to the Hebrews, at the conclusion of which bright roll he adds the soulanimating, soul-refreshing, and encouraging corollary, "Wherefore seeing we also are compassed about with so great a cloud of witnesses, let us lay aside every weight and the sin which doth so easily beset us, and let us run with patience the race set before us," &c., we are disposed to think with an able divine, that were it not for the din and noise of the ceaseless wheels of this world's machinery, we might hear ringing clear and beautiful as Heaven's own tones, the voices, the sweet familiar voices, of those that we once loved, saying to us, "we are witnesses of your cares;" we are spectators of your conflict. My children, my friends, my relatives, my father, my mother, be faithful, be steadfast; run the race set before you, looking not to us, but to Jesus. The race is rough, but it is short. The strife may be sharp, but it will soon be over. We have washed our robes and made them white in the blood of the Lamb, and we now wait to be perfectly happy in a re-union in the world of cloudless day.

"Let us then be up and doing, With a heart for any fate! Still achieving, still pursning, Learn to labor and to wait."

JAMES SMITH.

Northumberland Co., Va.

SELECTIONS FOR THE AMERICAN FARMER, BY A LADY.

Conversation.

Conversation must and ought to grow out of materials on which men agree, not upon subjects which try the passions.—Sydney Smith.

Surely one of the best rules in conversation, is never to say a thing which any of the company can reasonably wish we had rather left unsaid.—Swift.

The wit of conversation consists more in finding it in others, than in showing a great deal yourself; the man who goes from your conversation pleased with himself and his own wit, is perfectly well pleased with you.—La Bruyere.

A general fault in conversation, is that of those who affect to talk of themselves. Some

without any ceremany, will run over the history of their lives; will relate the annals of their diseases, with the several symptoms and circumstances of them; will enumerate the hardships and injustice they have suffered in court, in parliament, in love, or in law. Others are more dexterous and with great art will lie on the watch to hook in their own praise; they will call a witness to remember, they always foretold what would happen in such a case, but none would believe them; they advised such a man from the beginning, and told him the consequences, but he would have his own way. Others make a vanity of telling their faults; they are the strangest men in the world; they cannot dissemble; they own it as a folly; they have lost abundance of advantages by it; but if you would give them the world, they cannot help it; there is something in their nature that abhors insincerity and constraint; with many other insufferable topics of the same altitude. - Swift.

The Art of Happiness.

Sharp gives us the true method to be happy: "The chief secret of comfort, lies in not suffering trifles to vex one, and in prudently cultivating an undergrowth of small pleasures, since very few great ones, alas! are let on long leases."

Enjoying and Possessing.

When I walk the streets, I use the following maxim, viz: that he is the true possessor of a thing who enjoys it, and not that he owns it without the enjoyment of it, to convince myself that I have a property in the gay part of all the gilt chariots I meet, which I regard as amusements designed to delight my eyes, and the imagination of those kind people who sit in them gayly attired only to please me. I have a real, and they only an imaginary pleasure in their exterior embellishments. Upon ure in their exterior embellishments. Upon the same principle, I have discovered that I am the natural proprietor of all the diamond necklaces, the crosses, stars and embroidered clothes, which I see at a play or birthnight, as giving more natural delight to the spectator than to those who use them. And I look on the beaux and ladies as so many paraquets in an aviary, or tulips in a garden, designed purely for my diversion. A gallery of pictures, a cabinet or library, that I have free access to, I think my own. In a word, all that I desire is the use of things, let who will have the keeping of them. By which maxim, I am grown one of the richest men in Great Britain; with this difference, that I am not a prey to my own cares or the envy of others.—Berkeley.

Materialism.

Sydney Smith was once dining with a French gentleman, who was indulging, not perhaps, in the best possible taste, both before and during dinner, in a variety of free-thinking speculations, and ended by avowing himself a materialist. "Very good soup, this," said Mr. Smith. "Osi, Monsieur, c'est excellente." "Pray, sir, do you believe in a cook?"

HYGIDNE.

LIE DOWN AND REST .- Dr. Hall says the best medicine in the world, more efficient than all the potations of the materia medica, are warmth, rest, cleanliness and pure air. Some persons make it a virtue to brave disease, "to keep up" as long as they can move a foot or wiggle a finger, and it sometimes succeeds; but in others, the powers of life are thereby so completely exhausted that the system has lost all ability to recuperate, and slow and typhoid fever sets in and carries the patient to a premature grave. Whenever walking, or work is an effort, a warm bed and cool room are the very first indispensables to a sure and speedy recovery. Instinct leads all beasts and birds to quietude and rest the very moment disease or wounds assail the system.

Bone Felon.-Of all painful things can there be any so excruciatingly painful as bone felon? We know of none that flesh is heir As this malady is quite frequent, and the subject of much earnest consideration, we give the last recipe for its cure, which is given by that high authority, the London Lancet. "As soon as the disease is felt, put directly over the spot a fly blister, about the size of your thumb nail, and let it remain for six hours, at the expiration of which time, directly under the surface of the blister, may be seen the felon, which can instantly be taken out with the point of a needle or a lancet."

RHEUMATISM .- Those who are suffering from this distressing complaint should give the following remedy a fair trial. It is one used by an eminent physician for many years with marked success, and is now given to the public with the assurance of its effectiveness. We believe that poke-berries are now kept at the drug stores-if so, they can be had at any time. Take poke-berries two ounces, best gin one pint. Let stand long enough for the spirits to extract the virtues of the berry, then for an adult the dose is a tablespoonful three times a day. This simple remedy generally effects a complete cure in a few weeks.

CURE FOR A COLD .- A hot lemonade is one of the best remedies for a cold. It acts promptly and efficiently, and has no unpleasant after effects. One lemon should be properly squeezed, cut in slices, put with sugar, and covered with half a pint of boiling water. Drink just before going to bed, and do not expose yourself the following day. This remedy will ward off an attack of chills and fever, if used promptly,

QUICK RELIEF FOR BURNS.—Apply a layer of common salt and saturate it with laudanum. Hold it in position a few hours with a simple wrapper. The smarting disappears almost immediately, and the sore gets well with incredible rapidity.

To STOP BLEEDING AT THE NOSE .- Press the finger firmly upon the little artery that upplies blood to the side of the face affected.

Baltimore Markets, May 22.

Breadstuffs.—Flour—Howard St. Super, \$5.00 a6.00; do, common to fair extra, \$6.25a6.75; do. good to choice do., \$7.00a7.75; do. Family, \$8.00a9.50; Ohio and Indiana Super, \$8.00a6.00; do. common to fair Extra, \$6.25a6.75; do. good to choice do., \$7.00a7.75; do. Family, \$8.00a9.50; City Mills Super, \$5.00a5.75; do. low to medium Extra, \$7.00a8.00; Rio Brands do., \$9.25a9.75; City fancy brands, \$10.50a11.50; Fine Flour, \$4.25a4.75; Rye Flour, \$4.47a5.25; Corn Meal, \$3.25a

Wheat—Firm and in fair demand. We quote good Southern red at 180 cents; do. amber, 205a208 cents; do. choice white, 205a215 cents; Western winter red, good to prime, 185a190 cents; do. amber, 198 a200 cents; do. spring red, 178a175 cents.

Corn—Receipts large and market steady. Sales of Southern white at 64s72 cents; do. yellow, 63a64 cents; Western mixed, 64 cents.

Oats—Demand moderate, prices steady. Sales of Southern at 51a53 cents; bright Western, 49a50 cents Rye-Quiet, and offerings light. We quote choice lots at 90a100 cents.

Broom Corn—Good to choice long green hurl, 6a6 % cents; common to medium, 4a5 cents per pound. Cotton—Market quiet and steady. We quote prices as follows: Middling, 19 cents; low middling, 17% a18 cents; good ordinary, 15% a16% cents.

Hay and Straw - Western and Penna. Timothy \$20a30; choice Maryland do., \$30a31; Rye Straw, \$30; Oat Straw, \$20a22.

Live Stock—Beef Cattle—Market dull. We quote best on sale, 6% a7 cents; generally rated first-class, 5% a6% cents; fair quality, 5 cents.

Hogs Demand fair; supply moderate. We quote at 7% a8 cents, net.

at 7%a8 cents, net.

Sheep—Receipts large. We quote common at 4%a5% cents; extra, 6a6% cents, gross; Lambs, from \$3 to \$6.

Mill Feed—City Mills Brown Stuff, 24a25 cents; Middlings, light, 7a289 cents; heavy, 40a45 cents.

Molasses—Museovado, 23a26 cents; Porto Rico 44a66 cents, Syrmp—Calvert, 50a55 cents; Maryland, 45 cents; Canton Sugar House, 19 cents in hhds. and 29 cents in bble.

Potatoes—Supplies lighter. Peach Bloom 4.

and 22 cents in bile.

Potatees—Supplies lighter. Peach Blows \$1.10
al.30 per bushel.

Tebacce—Receipts of leaf large, and market fáirly active, especially for Maryland, which is being taken up for French and German use. Va. and Ky.
quiet, but prices steady. We quote Maryland frosted, \$4.503.50; good to middling common, \$7a9.50; good to fine brown, \$103.250; Virginia, co.mon luge, \$7.55a.95; good luge, \$838.36; common leaf, \$8.75a
9.75; medium to good fine leaf, \$10a12.50.

Whiskey—Western, 96 cents.

Wool—Market very quiet, and no movements.

9.70; meduum op good mie lean, 1902.12-09.

Whiskey - Western, 96 cents.

Western See Land on o movements.

We seport nominal prices. Good unwashed, 35639.

cents; pulled, 30a37 cents; tub washed, 37a42 cents.

NEW ADVERTISEMENTS.

A. E. Warner-Silver Ware, Jewelry, &c.

Harrington & Mills-Fine Farniture, &c.

A. H. Herkness-Sale of Durham Cattle.

P. T. George-Pure Bred Jerseys for Sale.

W. W. Cobey-Cotsweld Buck Lambs.

J. H. Phillips-Cattle for Sale.

T. S. Copper-Eggs for Hatching.

Jas. W. Tyson-Jersey Cattle for Sale.

L. H. Lee & Bro. Champion Reaper and Mower.

W. B. Matthews-Ayrshire and Devon Cattle for sale.

FOR SALE.

2 Thoroughteed Ayrahire Cows. 2 do. Devon Cows, bought of Col. W. W. W.

Bowie.

1 Thoroughbred Devon Bull, bought of Gov. Bowie.

2 Thoroughbred Devon Bull, bought of Wm. C. Wilson.

30 full blood South-Down Ewes, from 1 to 4 years old.

WM. B. MATTHEWS, Port Tobacco, Md.

REASONS WHY THE

CHAMPION

REAPER AND MOWER

Is the Leading and most Popular Machine in the Market. They all have

WROUGHT IRON FRAMES.

All other Machines have Cast Iron or Wood Frames.

They are made of superior and best quality of material, and are known and acknowledged by all competitors to be the

BEST MADE AND BEST FINISHED, AND MOST DURABLE MACHINE NOW MANUFACTURED.

THE PITMAN CONNECTION

To KNIFE HEEL is Patented, and is found only on the

CHAMPION MACHINE.

This is the only PITMAN CONNECTION that prevents the Knife from breaking near the heel, and that takes up all lost motion.

The TILTING ARRANGEMENT for changing from high to low cut when in motion, to pick up fallen grain or grass, lying flat, works to perfection, and fully satisfies every farmer.

They are the most simple in construction, and the strongest REAPERS AND MOWERS in use.

Enquire of disinterested parties, and then come to 54 and 56 LIGHT STREET, and see if the statements of this advertisement are not true in every particular.

The only place in Baltimore where the CHAMPION MACHINE can be seen is at

54 and 56 Light Street.L. H. LEE & BRO., Agents.

By enquiring of L. H. LEE & BRO. the address of Local Agents in Baltimore County and States of Maryland, Pennsylvania, New Jersey, Delaware, Virginia, and other Atlantic States will be promptly furnished.

je-1t

EXECUTORS' SALE

OF

VALUABLE SHORT-HORNED

DURHAM CATTLE

The Herd of the late James Gowen, dec'd, of Mount Airy.

ALFRED M. HERENESS, Auctioneer, will sell at Public Sale, upon the farm of the late Mr. Gowen, at Mount Airy, Philadelphia,

ON WEDNESDAY, JUNE 11, 1878,

At 12 o'clock, noon, without reserve, the entire Herd of

DURHAM CATTLE

of the late James Gowen, dec'd.

Catalogues containing descriptions and pedigrees of the animals to be offered for sale may be had upon application to the Auctioneer.

HERKNESS' BAZAAR,

Cor. Ninth and Sansom Streets, jett PHILADELPHIA

Pure Bred JERSEYS.

The following animals, all pure bred (some entered in Herd Register,) JERSEYS, are offered for sale at very moderate prices, viz:

offered for sale at very moderate prices, viz:
Bull MAJESTIC, dropped at sea, May 22,
1869; entered in A. J. H. R. No. 152; imported
per ship Majestic June 21, 1869; dam imported
Clio, H. B. 45, sired on Island of Jersey; imported by Mr. Sam'l J. Sharpless, of Phila.

LADY JANE, fawn and white, switch white; dropped May, 1872; sire Majestic, dam Soprona, both Herd Book animals.

LADY ANN, fawn, white switch; dropped August, 1872; sire Majestic.

LADY ALICE, dropped April, 1871; cream fawn, sire Velander 3d.

LADY MAY, fawn and white; dropped March, 1871; sire Velander 3d; dam Hebe 2d; both in Herd Book.

Bessie, dark fawn, some white; dropped March, 1870; sire Velander 3d.

Belle, fawn, white points; dropped March, 1873; sire Majestic.

PATTIE, fawn and white; dropped March, 1873; sire Majestic.

Address, P. T. GEORGE,
Baldwin P. O., Long Green Valley,
Baltimore Co., Md.
Or to Sam'l Sands & Son,

Or to Sam'l Sands & Son, je-1t Office American Farmer

A. E. WARNER,

Manufacturer of

Silver Ware, Rich Jewelry,

Watches, Diamonds, Jewelry, Silver Ware.

Importer and Dealer in

Diamonds, Fine Watches, Silver Plated Ware, Table Cutlery, Fancy Articles, &c.

No. 135 W. BALTIMORE STREET, BALTIMORE, MD. FINE BRONZES AND OPERA GLASSES. SOLID SILVER WARE OF OUR OWN e-1y MANUFACTURE.

HARRINGTON & MILLS,

No. 140 BALTIMORE STREET, BALTIMORE, MD.

Manufacturers and Importers of

Fine Furniture, Looking Glasses, Gilt Frames, Curtains and Draperies.

We call particular notice to our large stock of CANE FURNITURE, embracing Chairs, Tables, Lounges, &c., &c.; being particularly suitable for country residences, and adapted, from its lightness and coolness, for Southern latitudes.

A large stock of Fine Furniture constantly on hand and made to order. je-1y.

JERSEY CATTLE.

The subscriber offers for sale a very handsome lot of JERSEY CALVES, bred with especial reference to their Butter making qualities, of good, healthy stock. Also, a few GOOD COWS.

They can be seen any time at my residence near Melvale Station, on N. C. R. R., and 1½ miles from Druid Hill Park, on the Green Spring avenue.

JAS. W. TYSON, Office N. W. cor. Charles and Lexington sts.,

Office N. W. cor. Charles and Lexington sts. je-1t Baltimore, Md.

FOR SALE.

The splendid Jersey Bull, IVANHOE, No. 649 Herd Register, dropped July 19, 1867; color, fawn and little white; took the first premium at Maryland State Fair, 1872. Also, Bull BOSTON, dropped Oct. 28th, 1872 sire Ivanhoe, dam Lena Carroll, No. 1407. Thoroughbred Heifer ALTA 2d, sire Hector. No. 260, dam Alta, 2087, dropped Jan. 11th, 1872, color fawn and white.

JOHN E. PHILLIPS, 26 S. Calvert Street. Baltimore.

CHOICE COTSWOLD BUCK LAMBS.

From \$8 to \$15 apiece.

Pure Bred Jersey Red Pigs, from \$8 to \$10 per pair.

je-tf Riverside P. O., Charles Co., Md.

EGGS FOR HATCHING.

I will safely pack and deliver EGGS at Express Office from 15th of 15ay, 1873, from my Imported and Homebred Light and Dark Brahmas and Partridge Cochins, at \$2.50 per setting, (13 eggs.) which is one-half less in price than what I have been selling them this spring. Orders solicited and satisfaction guaranteed.

Address, T. S. COOPER, je Linden Grove Stock Farm, Coopersburg, Pa.

SAML. SANDS & SON'S Farmers and Planters' Agency,

FOR THE PURCHASE OF

Guanos, Fertilizers, Chemicals for making same, Improved Live Stock, Agricultural Implements and Machinery, Fruit and Ornamental Trees, Seeds, &c.

Carried on strictly as an Agency, and purchases made in most cases without charge to buyer.

Terms—CASH, or its equivalent. See, for particulars, large advertisement in July number of the American Farmer. SAML. SANDS & SON,

Office American Farmer, No. 9 North et., my-tf Baltimore, Md.

FARMS FOR SALE.

We have a list of very desirable FARMS and PLAN-TATIONS for sale and exchange, which we should be glad to c-thibit to intending purchasers, including some in this State, Virginia, Georgia, &c., many of which can be bought very cheap.

SAMUEL SANDS & SON, Put lishers American Farmer, GUANO! GUANO!! e have constantly on hand a No. 1 GUANAPE PE

We have constantly on hand a No. 1 GUANAPE PERUVIAN GUANO, which we offer for sale in lots to suit purchasers, at Agents' Warehouse at Point or uptown.

Bone Dust and Bone Flour.

which, by analysis, is the best bone offer d for sale in this market.

AA, A, B&C MEXICAN GUANO,

which we offer for sale at low prices.

Give us a call before purchasing.

ROB'T TURNER & SON, 43 and 46 S. Frederick St.

FIELD SEED of best quality always on hand. feb-ly

BALTIMORE OFFICE

BAUGH & SONS,

PHILADELPHIA,

FOR THE SALE OF

Baugh's Raw Bone Phosphate, Pure Ground Bones, And Fertilizing Supplies.

BAUGH & SONS,

ap-St No. 19 South St., Baltimors.

W. S. G. BAKER, Baltimore, Md.

Offers for sale selected EGGS for setting of

FIRST PRIZE FOWLS, viz:

Dark Bramah, Silver Spangled Harmburghs, Gold
laced Seabrights and Rouen Ducks.

Pator. 43.00 per dozen.

ap-3t

J. H. PARKS,

Engraver on Wood,

Marble Building (Third Floor, Front Room), S. E. Cor. Charles and Fayette sts.,

jan-tf BALTIMORE.

MANUFACTURERS OF PURE

NO. 1 GROUND PLASTER. C. S. & E. B. FREY.

No. 18 HARFORD AVENUE, BALTIMORE, MD.

And dealers in Corn Husks. Always buying and pay
the Highest Cash Price

FOR CORN HUSKS. feb

BEE-KEEPING IN A NUTSHELL.

Giving full and simple directions for making money rapidly with Bees.

Mailed Free for 15 Crays.

BANKS & RUSSEI.L, mar-6t Baltimore, Md.



IMPORTED AND HOME-BRED.

Send for Circular.

E. J. PECK, Linden, N. J.

USE AUTOMATIC BEE FEEDERS.

mar-ly

feb

Baltimore, Maryland.

TO TOBACCO PLANTERS!

1873.



1873.

· Fourteen years' experience in the growth of Tobacco in Maryland and Virginia has demonstrated beyond doubt that "EXCELSIOR" has no competitor in the growth of that staple. It is the unanimous opinion of the Tobacco planters of Maryland "that from the application of EXCELSIOR the crop is heavier and of finer quality, cures earlier and better, and is not so liable to suffer from drought as from Peruvian Guano." We refer to every Tobacco Planter in Maryland. Uniformity of quality guaranteed by the manufacturers.

PRICE \$60 PER TON.

J. J. TURNER & CO., 42 Pratt St., Baltimore, Md. CAUTION—The popularity of "EXCELSIOR" as the only reliable substitute for Peruvian Guano has induced unscrupulous parties in this and other cities to use the name "Excelsior" to sell their worthless compounds. Every bag of genuine "Excelsior" has our name on it in RED LETTERS. All others are counterfeits.

Send for Circular containing testimonials.

JOHN C. DURBOROW,

GENERAL AGENT FOR

THE KIRBY MOWERS and REAPERS.

AND DEALER IN

AGRICULTURAL IMPLEMENTS, Cucumber Pumps, Seeds, Fertilizers, &c.

COE'S Unrivailed SUPER-PHOSPHATE, \$50 per Ton.



N. B. The BALTIMORE SELF-RAKE on the KIRBY REAPER and MOWER received the Diploma at Maryland State Fair, the Diploma at Frederick Co. Fair, Oct., 1872; the Kirby twowheel Mower received First Premium at Carroll Co. and Frederick Co. Fairs, and First Premium at Virginia State Fair held at Richmond Nov., 1872. Simple, strong and durable. Positively no side draft and no weight on horses necks. Extras and Repairs constantly on hand.

Send for circular and price list.

JOHN C. DURBOROW, 64 SOUTH SHARP STREET.

nov-ly

NEAR PRATT, BALTIMORE, MD.

FERTILIZERS. STRICTLY PURE GROUND BONE,

Muriate Potash, Sulphate Potash, German Potash Salts, Nitrate Soda, Salt Cake, Nitre Cake, Sulphate Soda, Sulphate of Ammonia. &c.

OIL VITRIOL & CHEMICALS FOR MAKING SUPERPHOSPHATES AND FERTILIZERS

R. J. BAKER & CO.,

jan-1y

Nos. 36 & 38 S. Charles st., Baltimore, Md.

Steam Marble Works,

Cor. North and Monument Sts., Baltimore, Md.

MANTELS, MONUMENTS, and STATUARY, GRAVESTONES AND TABLE TOPS,

MARBLE COUNTERS, for Banks, Hotels and Druggists,
TILES FOR FLOORS, GARDEN STATUARY, constantly on hand,
feb-ly
AT THE LOWEST PRICES.

BURNS & SLOAN, No. 192 LIGHT STREET WHARF.

BALTIMORE, MD.

BUILDING LUMBER, SHINGLES, ASH, OAK and WALNUT.

LIME, BRICKS, SASH & MILL WORK.

THOROUGH-BRED AND TROTTING

HORSES

AND

Short-Horn Cattle.

We are breeding and have for sale stock of the above description, and invite purchasers to communicate with us.

J. N. & J. D. BETHUNE, Elway Stock Farm,

ap-tf

NEÅR WARRENTON, FAUQUIER CO., VA

Pacific Guano Company's SOLUBLE PACIFIC GUANO.

JOHN S. REESE & CO., No. 10 SOUTH STREET, BALTIMORE, Md., GENERAL AGENTS.

CAPITAL\$1,000,000.

The use of this Guano since its introduction in 1864, and the annual increase of its consumption from a few hundred tons the first year of its use, to many thousands of tons, is the best attestation to its value as an efficient agent for the increase of the products of agricultural labor, as well as to the integrity of its production.

The large capital invested by this Company in this business, and its unusual facilities, enables it to furnish a fertilizer of the highest excellence at the lowest cost to

consumers.

It is the policy of the Company to furnish the best fertilizer at the lowest price, and look to large sales and small profit for reasonable returns on Capital employed.

This Guano is sold by Agents of the Company in all the markets of the Middle, Southern and Gulf States.

Price in Baltimore \$50 per Ton 2000 lbs.

may-6t

JOHN S. REESE & CO.

V. O. EARECKSON,

LUMBER DEALER,

West Falls Avenue, first Yard South of Pratt St. Bridge.

Building Lumber, Shingles, Laths, Palings, FENCING, &c.

LIME, BRICKS, SASH, DOORS AND MILL WORK,
may-ly AT THE LOWEST PRICES.

Important!

PORTABLE GAS! PORTABLE GAS!

Kuster's Non-Explosive Gaslight Fluid!

Cheapest, Safest and best Light in the World, giving a light equal to Coal Gas at the cost of one-half cent per hour! The lighting of CHURCHES, HALLS and STORES a SPECIALTY. The Petroleum Fluid Stove is found superior in the satisfactory and rapid manner in which it does its work—always ready and under momentary control. For Broiling Steak, Fish or Game it is unsurpassed. For Baking of Bread, Cakes and Pies, no oven with any other fuel in the world equals it. Call and see for yourselves.

C. F. KUSTER, Successor to F. G. PALMER, and late U. S. Portable Gaslight Co.,

my-12t No. 9 South Gay street, Baltimore, Maryland

COE'S Super-Phosphate of Lime

BALTIMORE, MD., January 8th, 1873.

MR. ANDREW COE, BALTIMORE.

Sir:—In answer to your note of 17th Dec., 1872, asking me to inform you of the effect of the three tons and a half of your Super-Phosphate of Lime, purchased from you the past Spring and Fall, had upon my crops, I will state the effects as briefly as I can:

Having used your Fertilizer on my crops in 1871, with much satisfaction, particularly on

pctatoes, I purchased no other kind the past season.

Having on hand a small quantity of another fertilizing compound, of popularity among farmers, which cost \$60 per ton, I determined to test its relative value with your Super-Phos phate of Lime, and on the \$8 June last I fertilized a row of potatoes, (King of the Earlies,) 90 yards long, about the middle of a small lot of good ground; the rest of the lot was fertilized with your Super-Phosphate of Lime. I instructed my farmer, who is an excellent seedsman, to put an equal quantity, as near as he possibly could, of the two kinds of Fertilizers on each row, as I intended to test the relative value of the two kinds of Fertilizers, to find out which was the cheaper of the two. I was present at the planting and marked the row. I was present also at the digging of this and an adjoining row; and was very particular in keeping the produced 137 lbs., and the other produced but 126 lbs. Taking yours at \$50 per ton, the other is 20 per cent. higher, at \$60 per ton; and, therefore, to have returned me at an equivalent for my out lay, should have produced me 20 per cent. more of potatoes, which would have been 164.40 lbs. instead of 126 lbs.; or in other words, a fraction more than 30 per cent. below an equivalent in value, compared with your Super-Phosphate of Lime. I put it on my wheat this Fall, about a bag of 167 pounds per acre, and my wheat tooks quite as promising as any on the Liberty road, between my farm, 14 miles out, and the city of Baltimore.

There was another demonstration on my farm, the past season, of the relative value of these two Fertilizers on potatoes. I rented two acres of land to two neighbors on shares. The lot faced the south; I plowed it in one land; the north part from the finishing furrow, 29½ rows, was planted 25th May, and fertilized with Coe's Super-Phosphate of Lime; the south part, 32 rows, was planted 29th May, and fertilized with an equal quantity of the \$60 per ton compound; it should be borne in mind that the south part had the advantage of the furrows being thrown down hill and was, consequently, better plowed than the north side, all the furrows of which were thrown up hill. The whole lot was planted in Peach Blow potatoes, and both parts well cultivated alike. The season for potatoes in our section of country was very unfavorable, owing to the excessive dry weather, and the ravages of a small worm, which works its way from the steam above ground, to the pith of the root, often penetrating the end of the root; the presence of which may readily be known, by the stumpy vine and curled

leaves.

Although this lot was not intended as a comparison of the relative value of the two fertilizers, the contrast is still more striking than in the two rows planted by myself, as the figures will show: The 29½ rows produced 49 bushels, and the 32 rows produced only 46 bushels; whereas the 32 rows should have produced 53 bushels to be equal in quantity to the 29½ rows; then add 20 per cent. to the 53 bushels, the 32 rows should have produced 63 bushels to equalize the value of the two Fertilizers, making a difference in favor of your Super-Phosphate of Lime of 38 per cent. in money value. I put it upon my corn; the effect was quite satisfactory. I put 100 lbs. per acre on poor land, sowed in buckwheat, on the 4th July, and without any exception, the crop was as fine as any I ever saw. Upon roots crops, I consider it unrivalled in its effects; and for crops generally, I believe it is much cheaper for the farmer than any other Fertilizer offered to the public.

Several of my neighbors who have been familiar with my crops the two years past, have signified to me their intention of using your Super-Phosphate of Lime the present year. I will probably need about five tons for my own crop; I will not use any other kind, so long as you keep up the present standard in quality, and the relative value in price, compared with other Fertilizers, unless I shall find another, which, by actual comparison, will "pay better." I intend the coming season, to make careful comparison with your Super-Phosphate of Lime and other

compounds in the market, on corn and wheat.

Very respectfully,

mar-6t

L. W. GOSNELL.

TO CORN GROWERS!

J. J. TURNER & CO'S AMMONIATED

BONE SUPER-PHOSPHATE.

	A	N	A	L	Y	8	I	S						
Ammonia									 	 	 	 	 	2.83
Soluble Phosphate of Lin	ne								 	 		 	 	29.51
Bone Phosphate of Lime	8								 	 		 	 	10.67

Composed of Bones and Guano dissolved in Sulphuric Acid, it is richer in Ammonia and Soluble Phosphates than any other fertilizer sold, except our "EXCELSIOR," and is made with same care and supervision. Uniform quality guaranteed. Fine and dry, in excellent order for drilling. Packed in bags.

J. J. TURNER & CO.,

ap-3t

42 Pratt street, Baltimore, Md.

THOMAS' SMOOTHING HARROW.

E. WHITMAN & SONS,

No. 145 and 147 WEST PRATT STREET, Baltimore,

Opposite the Maltby House,

SOLE AGENTS FOR MARYLAND.

Also a large stock of every description of

AGRICULTURAL IMPLEMENTS, SEEDS and FERTILIZERS.

Send for Catalogue.

an-St

IMPORTANT IMPROVEMENT IN FERTILIZERS.

German Potash Salts,

Imported directly from the mines, high and low tests.

Orders of Manufacturers promptly executed in deliveries to suit.

STOCK ON HAND FOR SALE VERY CHEAP.

Muriate of Potash, Kainit, &c.

Please call for circulars. TATE, MÜLLER & CO. BONE ASH, imported from South America, GROUND BONE and GUANO, for sale.

TATE, MÜLLER & CO. 52 S. Gay St., Baltimore, Md.

oct-1y

GROVER & BAKER SEWING MACHINE COMPANY

17 N. Charles Street,

BALTIMORE, MD.

Buy one of their improved

"LOCK STITCH" or "ELASTIC STITCH" Sewing Machines,

THE VERY BEST IN USE.

They combine the elements of

BEAUTY,

DURABILITY,
SIMPLICITY AND
USEFULNESS.

Either style embodies all the latest and most useful attachments and improvements.

The Grover & Baker Sewing Machine Company,

Is the only Company that afford the purchaser a Choice of Stitch.

They make Two Distinct Machines,

"Elastic" and "Lock-Stitch."

SALESROOMS,-17 N. CHARLES STREET,

BALTIMORE

BUCKEYE MOWER AND REAPER



Still leads the van. The past harvest the Buckeye was subjected to the most thorough tests in all conditions of grain, and notwithstanding the combined opposition of the whole Mower and Reaper fraternity, this old and faithful farmers' friend came out with flying colors, and thus added fresh proofs of its simplicity, utility and durability. We ask especial astention to our MILLER'S TABLE SELF-RAKE AND REVOLVING DROPPER, REAPER AT-TACHMENTS, as being simple, durable and complete.

SWEEPSTAKES THRESHER, with CAREY or CLIMAX POWERS, (either mounted or down.)

The above Thresher and Cleaner and Horse Powers are again offered to farmers and threshermen as possessing all the latest improvements, and we are prepared to convince the most skeptical that they will thresh and clean more grain in less time, better and with more ease to team, than any machines of their class in the market.

JOSHUA THOMAS, General Agent, 35 North street, Baltimore, Md.

Also, General Agent for the HAGERSTOWN WHEEL HORSE RAKE and KELLER DRILL and GULLETT COTTON GIN, and Dealer in Millstones, Bolting Cloths, Smut Machines, Belting, &c.

Short-Horns

FOR SALE.

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